

[30th January 1936]

V.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1935-36

(1) GRANT XI—MINISTERS, CIVIL SECRETARIATS AND MISCELLANEOUS—
— TRANSFERRED

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,200 under 'Grant XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred.'

"The purpose of this demand has been clearly explained in the explanatory note^a attached. The question of bringing the Muslim endowments under proper control by legislation has been engaging public attention, and on two occasions, notice of non-official Bills has been given in this House. Government have carefully examined this question, and from the information available they have come to the conclusion that on financial grounds an independent statutory body for controlling the Muslim properties alone will not be self-supporting; and on this account they had been constrained last time to oppose the motion for reference of these Bills to a Select Committee. Subsequently, Government have collected the information available in the district offices as to the number of these inams and other trust funds, although from the data that have been collected it is not possible to ascertain which of these inams have been given for religious purposes and which have been given a personal inams. It was afterwards considered that at this rate there would be no finality in the matter, and it is desirable to have the entire question examined. From the materials so far available to Government, it is clear that on the ground of finance it is not possible to set up an independent board in order to meet the wishes of the members of the Muslim community. The only practical solution appears to be to extend the scope of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act so as to include Muslim endowments also. With this purpose in view, Government have decided to appoint a committee to examine this question and to draw up a practical scheme for giving effect to the proposals contained in the various Bills that have come up before this House from time to time.

"As this is deemed to be a new service and as it was not possible to make provision for this in the Budget of 1935-36, I have to come up before this House for sanction to incur this expenditure. I hope and trust, with the information I have given, the House will vote in favour of this motion."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,200 under "Grant XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred" by Rs. 100 (to elicit further information).'

It has been said that the Government contemplate having only one board in order to have control over the Muslim endowments also and on financial grounds a separate board to control the Muslim endowments is not possible. It would be useful if the Hon. the Minister

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enlightens the House as to the financial position of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, as regards the annual income that it derives and the actual expenditure that is being incurred; and also the House would like to know as to what portion of the loans that the Endowments Board had borrowed from Government had been paid off, and what the balance remaining to be paid is. I should also like to know whether the idea is to have one or two Muslim members upon the board to have control over the Muslim endowments separately, or whether it is the idea that all endowments irrespective of Hindu or Muslim will be controlled both by the Hindus and the Muslims.

“Then, Sir, I should like to know whether the Government have any proposal to provincialize the Hindu Religious Endowments Board in the near future. Hon. Members will be aware that on more than one occasion, resolutions were brought forward before this Council, though they were not actually discussed, as to the desirability of provincializing the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

“Then, Sir, as regards the personnel of the committee I am surprised that it does not include at least one of the ex-presidents of the Endowments Board. No doubt the present President of the board is on the committee, but he has been in office only for a short time. It is less than a year since he was appointed as President. That being the case, one would expect the committee to consist of one of the ex-presidents. I hope the Hon. Minister will consider that aspect of the question also.” 12 noon.

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“Sir, supporting the motion which has been so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, I would like to know whether it is desirable to constitute a single committee of the kind proposed to look after both these endowments. We find that the endowments Board has not only to look after the endowments that have been set apart for the various temples but has also something to do with the general supervision including the rituals and other things performed in the temples. It is plain, Sir, that the difference between these two religions, Muhammadan and Hindu, is great. When it is so, we have to consider whether it is advisable to constitute one and the same body to look after these two religious endowments and institutions. This aspect of the question needs careful consideration before any decision is taken. The hon. Mover pertinently asked whether it is the intention of the Government to constitute a committee to go into both these endowments or whether it is their intention that the Hindu section of the committee should look after the Hindu endowments and the Muhammadan section should look after the Muhammadan endowments. Sir, if a single committee is constituted at least such a separation would be necessary in the interests of the better administration of both the endowments. So I would urge on the Government to give their best consideration to this matter.

“Then with regard to the personnel of the committee, we find that a number of non-officials and some officials have been appointed. Out of these, four gentlemen are, I believe, to look into the Muhammadan,

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side of the question. But, to look into the Hindu side of the question, I find that sufficient representation has not been given. There are only two non-officials, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. Narayana Rao Nayudu. Even of these two, one is a retired official. Of the rest, one is an official of the Endowments Board and the other a Secretary to Government. I think this is inadequate representation for the Hindu community. It is necessary that for the careful consideration of this very important question of religion and religious endowments, there must be fair representation given to the communities.

“Then Sir, I am unable to know on what principle this committee has been formed and on what basis nominations to the committee have been made. I would like to ask whether it is not desirable to include some prominent religionists from both the communities so that this question may be dealt with in the light of their opinions. On all these points I would like to have information from the Hon. Minister.”

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, if I intervene in this matter it is only to impress upon the Hon. the Chief Minister the difficulties that face us in considering a matter of this kind and to see that all possible aspects of the matter are considered. Sir, I find from the short note circulated to us that the idea to combine the Muhammadan endowments with the Hindu Religious Endowments under this Board is more or less settled and that only the arrangements remain to be considered. That is the idea one gets from the note. I hope it is not so.

“Sir, with reference to religious matters the feelings in the country are strong and we have had complaints that the Endowments Board is interfering in religious matters. The fact that we are carefully watching this feeling is clear from the paragraph in the report of the Endowments Board published every year showing the extent to which the people have come to reconcile themselves to the existence of this Board and its administration of the endowments. That being the case, if we bring the Muhammadan endowments also under this Board, we will have to bestow serious consideration to the matter and that in consultation with the Hindu community which is the community really affected. Sir, we people here have a different view of things from the more religious members of our community. We care more for the convenience of administration than for the implications of such administration. So, I would urge the Hon. Minister to state in the order of reference that the Government have not made up its mind in regard to this matter and that all possible ways of meeting the wishes of the people will be considered. It is very necessary that before the Government commits itself to a definite policy, all the aspects of the question should be examined. In that view, I would ask, Sir, that the orthodox section of the community should be taken into confidence before a final decision is taken on this matter. As I said already, I am not orthodox and do not care who administers the endowments so long as they are properly administered. But that is not the view of most people outside. So I say that the orthodox school also must find some place on the committee. Going through the list of members I find that they are

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mostly in the position in which I am. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister to put in one or two orthodox people also on the committee. I am making this suggestion in view of the fact that in religious matters feelings are strong and since we are making a very great change—combining both the endowments in one institution—we have to be very careful indeed. So any proposal that is made has to be made in such a way that there will be no interference either in the administration or participation in the benefits that may accrue from them by the concerned community for whose benefit the endowments are intended. Unless we so manage things that a member of one community will have nothing to do with the endowments of another community, there will be very great objection in the country and, whatever others may feel, there will be a legitimate grievance in the matter. I do not think this House would be a party to any proposal which will make the endowments of one community controllable by the members of another community. I hope the Hon. Minister will bear these in mind, when he draws up the terms of reference for this proposed committee. I would also advise him if I may that he might add one or two orthodox members to the committee.”

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am really surprised that there has been objection to the consolidation of the Act so as to provide for control over Muslim endowments also. Sir, for more than a century at least we have had non-Hindus administering, in certain circumstances, Hindu religious endowments and Hindus administering Muslim and Christian religious endowments. I therefore really do not see why there should be any objection to that at all. Before this Act came into force, we had Act XX of 1863. I ask who were the people that were administering the religious endowments? They were Europeans. Then, under section 92 of the Civil Procedure Code, the district judges were administering them. They were also non-Hindus. Now why should there be any objection to the enlargement of the scope of the Act so as to provide for the administration of Muslim endowments also? The Endowments Act, we know, provides only for control over secular matters. If really objection is to be taken to any of the commissioners going into religious matters, the cause for it exists even now. The Commissioners of the Endowments Board also are unfit to deal with religious rites because most of them are non-Brahmans. Therefore, strictly speaking, it is objectionable that these people should have anything to do with the administration and the rituals and all those things. They are not interfering with the rituals. Even Muslims have been administering our religious endowments and Hindus and Christians have been administering Muslim endowments also. Therefore, so far as control over secular matters is concerned, I do not see that there is any objection at all. If any control is going to be assumed over rituals, naturally, there will be very strong opposition from the orthodox section, both Muslim and Hindu. From the standpoint of the orthodox Hindus, I do not think they will make any distinction between a Hindu Non-Brahman and a Christian, or a Muslim. They would have objection to all alike in regard to the

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control over rituals. Therefore, so far as that is concerned, there cannot be any objection at all. I am really surprised that my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar also has joined in the opposition. He himself exercises some control over the Tirupati temple and I do not think he will have any place there if his objection to the present idea is valid. The administration there is carried on mostly by non-Brahmans and I do not think he has a right to go into the rituals as a non-Brahman. Therefore the objection to Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar is quite wrong. (Interruption.) You know he is a Theosophist (Laughter.) (Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'I never said that.') I know that you did not say so. You think in your heart of hearts that he is a Theosophist and so should not be there.

12-15 p.m. "Whatever that may be, there ought not to be any objection from these people for the Government providing secular control over these institutions. I should like that some Christian gentlemen also should join this committee. If such Christian gentlemen think that they would be encouraging idolatry, they ought not to join the committee. But if they are broadminded, they ought to join it."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"I should thank the hon. Member from Ganjam for giving us the very valuable, sound and cosmopolitan advice just on the eve of his retirement from this Council. He said about so many matters pertaining to the south. There are very many temples in the south and if there is one part which is studded with temples, big and small, in which various festivals and ceremonial rites and observance take place, it is I believe in the south of South India and I would very much like my hon. Friend, if he were to continue as a Member of this Council, to visit the south and look around matters for himself and consider whether he was right in giving us this unwarranted, unorthodox and impractical advice, perhaps, in the belief that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board exercises control only over secular matters. It exercises control not only on secular matters but has also to deal with ceremonial matters by giving directions, settling schemes, etc. I believe one member of the Board had to go into a question whether a particular idol can be installed regard being had to the rituals of the temple and all things connected with it. Of course we all know that the District Collectors were controlling some of these institutions. But under the law they were bound to do it. But certainly my hon. Friend from Ganjam cannot say that that system was the ideal. It was given up and cannot be revived. True there have been large minded gentlemen both among Christians and Muhammadans who have administered the secular affairs of the religious institutions of other denominations. I hope my hon. Friend sitting there, Mr. Scott Brown, will corroborate me when I say that an ancient Collector of Madura, Mr. Rouse Peter, is even now considered as a Hindu under Christian garb. There is a legend that on one evening at about 8 p.m. i.e., when he was about to retire to bed, one small girl seemed to have peeped into his room and ordered him to get out of the room and he got out. A few minutes later he saw the whole building was coming down. The legend is said to be that Goddess Minakshi went to him and warned him of an impending danger. The

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arched light that is in front of the temple was a gift of Rouse Peter. When I had the honour of explaining certain matters to His Excellency the Viceroy, the then Collector who was present with me told that he had not the same liberty to allot funds for the religious institutions as that ancient Collector had. There was the well-known Yousouf Khan who got back all the lands for the temple which were taken away earlier by Muslim conquerors. I ask the hon. Member from Ganjam if such cases were rare or general. I only think that in what my hon. Friend said, the wish was father to the thought. The result is he has tendered us an impractical advice. It is one thing that a committee consists of representatives of several castes of Hindus. But it is wholly another thing, that Christians or Muhammadans can be there. What my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, said was that there must be representations from the orthodox members from the community of the Hindus. But my own impression is that Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar has done himself less than justice when he wanted to place himself in the position of a less orthodox man. His habits are orthodox and I do hope when he is offered a place in the committee he would not hesitate to accept it."

* The Hon. the **RAJA OF BOBBILI**:—"Many of the remarks made especially by the Mover and the seconder of the motion were premature. They wanted to go into the financial position of the present Endowments Board and one of the members said that the Endowments Board is going to be provincialised. There seems to have been some misapprehension in making these remarks. I think at this stage these points are premature. I may state for the information of the House that the Government have not come to any decision on these matters. They have already made up their minds and there is going to be a larger scheme and there is no point in saying that a committee should be appointed to prepare a scheme. The whole idea in appointing a committee of this sort is that so far as the administration of Muslim endowments is concerned, they have decided finally that they should be brought under the scope of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. But certainly the Muslim endowments will be looked after by a Muslim Commissioner and the Hindu endowments by the Hindu Commissioners. But if both the Muslim and the Hindu commissioners are located in one and the same place there would be some saving in office accommodation, staff and so on. The intention is that if we have a common board its functions would be more or less of a judicial nature. One board has to constitute itself into a court and give decisions. I may state at once that the whole idea is not to commit either the Government or the Council to any definite scheme. The intention of the Government is to constitute this committee to explore various avenues and to find out whether it would be possible to evolve a scheme that is financially sound. No doubt every opportunity will be given for an agreed scheme being produced. Not only the Legislative Council but the public also will be given an opportunity to express their opinions.

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“As regards the personnel of the committee, I may state at once that Government have to use their discretion and nominate such men who in their opinion are competent to discharge the responsibilities that are to be entrusted to them. If the names of any members are not found, it does not mean that such men are not competent or qualified to find a place in the committee. I am sure the committee will have the benefit of the views expressed on the floor of this House and when they consider this matter, they will be able to evolve a workable scheme and then will give an opportunity to people of all schools of thought to express their opinions. By asking this House to agree to this demand, I may state at once that neither the Government nor the Council are committing themselves to any definite scheme by so doing. As I have explained already, the whole idea is to have the benefit of such economies which could possibly be effected by locating the two offices in one and the same place and also by having a common staff. Apart from this, it has never been intended by the members of the committee to interfere with the rituals or customs or rites of the various religious institutions. I hope, Sir, that the information that I have now given will satisfy hon. Members of this House.”

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

(2) GRANT XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under “Grant XVI—Electricity—Reserved”.’

Hon. Members will find from the explanatory note^a supplied to them that Government have had under consideration the question of improving and revising the existing arrangements under which the municipal engineers and electrical engineers in municipalities are appointed by municipal councils. The appointments are now treated as isolated, that is to say, each municipality appointing its own officers and there is no inter-relation between the officers of one municipality and those of another. In the interests of efficient administration of both the engineering department as well as the electrical department in these municipalities, Government propose to constitute these officers into two regular services. One will be called the Madras Municipal Engineering Service and the other the Madras Local Authorities Electrical Engineers Service. Of course the expenses involved in the payment to these services will be entirely met by the municipal councils concerned. The municipal engineer portion of the services would be placed under the sanitary engineer and the electrical portion under the Chief Engineer for Electricity. For the additional work involved in their offices, the sanitary engineer on the one hand and the electrical engineer on the other will require certain staff. This staff is mentioned on page 3 of the explanatory note, and it has been approved by the

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Government. But it will be noticed that a certain amount of funds would be required to pay this staff. As far as the new services are concerned, it has been proposed to move a supplementary demand and I take it that the small expenditure anticipated in the current year will be met from the sanctioned appropriations under the respective grants."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

that the allotment of Rs. 100 under Grant XVI—Electricity—Reserved be reduced by Re. 1.

12-30 P.M.

I want the Hon. the Law Member to enlighten the House as to the number of municipal engineers and the number of electrical engineers that will go to constitute these two new services. The explanatory note gives us only the expenditure on account of the additional establishment that will be required but we have no idea of the annual recurring expenditure on account of the creation of these new services. Further, I should like to know the opinion of the Finance Committee in this matter. The note does not say what the Finance Committee thought about the proposal.

"I would also like to know whether the additional staff that is referred to in the note is absolutely necessary and whether it will not be possible at the initial stage to get on with the existing staff. I think we should have the least amount of staff to initiate these two new services. With these remarks, I move the motion."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I should like to get some further information with regard to this demand. I find from the note that one service is called the Madras Municipal Engineering Service, while the other is called the Madras Local Authorities Electrical Engineers Service. From this difference, are we to understand, Sir, that Government propose to constitute a service of electrical engineers with regard to local bodies also and encourage the undertaking of electrical enterprises by local boards too? Again with regard to the additional establishments for the office of the Chief Engineer for Electricity, I find that the additional establishment required by the Chief Engineer consists of one assistant engineer, two upper division clerks, one lower division clerk and one typist. Again under the heading of Chief Engineer for Electricity I find one upper division clerk. This needs some elucidation. Further I should like to know what are the duties of the additional establishment that is proposed to be appointed. As it is, I think, Sir, that the Electricity department is looking after the whole thing and any additional establishment that will be required will be only to deal with the appointments and transfers of these engineers and similar matters. For such things, I desire to know whether such a huge establishment consisting of a number of clerks is necessary. My object in giving notice of the 'cut' motion is to have some enlightenment on these points."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, I welcome the Government proposals to constitute a common cadre for

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municipal engineers and another common cadre for electrical engineers employed in electrical undertakings of municipalities and local boards. As far as my knowledge of the scheme goes there was a proposal to have a common cadre for municipal engineers and district board assistant engineers who are more or less on the same scale of pay as municipal engineers. I do not understand why the Government have come forward with a proposal to have a common cadre for municipal engineers alone and left out the district board assistant engineers. I request the Hon. the Law Member to furnish me with the information.

“ In this connexion I should also like to sound a note of warning. Whenever the Government want to create a common cadre for such officers there is a tendency on the part of municipal council to increase the pay of their engineers in the hope that when the common cadre is created the increased pay might be fixed as the permanent pay of their engineers. Whatever they might do, I request the Government to create a cadre which will be suitable for all the major municipalities. With these remarks I support the motion.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Sir, I just want to have some information with regard to this grant. It is stated in the explanatory note that the cost of these two services will be met entirely by the municipal councils concerned but that they will be placed under the control of the Government. Sir, when the cost of these services is met by the local bodies concerned, where is the justification for the Government appointing the officers and controlling them? If the cost is met by the Government, then they might constitute them into a separate service and control themselves. I want to know, Sir, why the Government should have any control over these officers now.”

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I rise to welcome the proposal of the Government to create a provincial cadre for municipal engineers and another provincial cadre for electrical engineers working under municipalities and local boards having electrical undertakings. In this connexion, I would request the Government to see that in forming these two new cadres the present incumbents are not in any way affected adversely. It may be that the authorities responsible for the creation of these two new cadres may remove one or two of the existing engineers. But I should like to remind the Government that the existing engineers were appointed by the municipal councils on the advice and approval of the departmental heads and therefore I see no reason why in creating these new services any one of them should be adversely affected.

“ With regard to the point raised by the hon. Member from Cudapah, namely, that the Government should have no control over the appointment and activities of these officers while the municipal councils are meeting their cost entirely, I may say that the trend of the Government—and rightly so—is to take on themselves the responsibility of providing the municipalities with officers having the requisite expert technical knowledge. I hope the responsibility will

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always continue to rest with the Government and that they will not yield to the clamour of the municipal councils or the chairmen of municipalities, but will retain in their own hands the power not only to appoint efficient men but also to control their conduct and activities. Until and unless this is done, there will be absolutely no chance for efficiency of administration so far as these technical appointments are concerned. I therefore very strongly urge on the Government not to soften but continue to retain in their own hands the control of these appointments."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"Sir, I welcome the proposal of the Government to constitute the municipal engineers and the electrical engineers into two provincial cadres. I am glad that the Government also propose to have these engineers under their own control. A system of dual control is bad and the reason why the Electrical Engineer of the Ootacamund Municipal Council has been unable to discharge his duties efficiently is due to the system of dual control. A deputation of the Ootacamund Municipal Council waited on the Collector and they were told that one of the reasons why the Government was unwilling to allow the Ootacamund Municipality to continue the present arrangement of supplying current beyond the limits of the municipality was that on certain occasions the efficiency of the Electrical department failed. The Government produced about five sheets of complaints from consumers of current. That showed that the supply of current outside the municipality was not efficient. Now under the proposed scheme, I am sure the Government will appoint efficient electrical engineers who will not be under a dual control but under their own control. This is a technical matter and has to be very carefully looked into. It is also a dangerous matter. The Government which is creating these services should also have a right to call the tune so far as the work of these engineers is concerned. o

"There is also another question. The Government intend to confine the operations of the municipal council to the supply of current within municipal limits, with the exception of Coonoor which is at present supplying current outside municipal limits also. This being so, the pay of the electrical engineer will naturally be small as he will have to cater to a very small area and will have very little work to do within municipal limits. On the other hand, if the Government could see their way to appoint a single engineer for a whole district instead of for a single municipality, there will be no extra expenditure involved and the pay of the engineer who might be appointed can also be sufficiently high. I am speaking from a certain amount of experience in this matter when I say that a low paid electrical engineer may not be of much use in controlling a small area. It would be more or less a waste. If the Government would consider the advisability of appointing an electrical engineer for a whole district including the municipalities, he will have sufficient work to do and the pay that we may be able to give him will be proportionately large. With these remarks I support the motion."

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* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, It will be noticed that there are two parts for this grant; one concerns civil engineers working in municipalities who attend to roads, buildings and services like that; the other concerns electrical engineers. As has been pointed out already, each municipality is at present appointing its own engineer and its own electrical engineer. The electrical services—I am not referring to the personnel of the service but the work done by these engineers in the power-houses and in attending to the needs of the people outside—are not an easy matter. Moreover they are a new matter. We have not got experienced electricians in the country and the engineers who are appointed are taken off-hand just as one is available for the salary which the municipality can afford to pay. Mr. Davis, the hon. Member from Ootacamund, the Member for the Anglo-Indian community, and one who has been Chairman of the Ootacamund Municipal Council for some time (An hon. Member: 'For a long time')—for a long time, I am corrected—has just now told the House the difficulties felt in Ootacamund. The Ootacamund Municipal Council has a power-house to which high-tension power is supplied from Pykara. They have also purchased an existing high-tension line and are supplying power to Coonoor Municipality which in turn is supplying power to a few tea estates. Complaints were received by the Government from various sources, from the people of the two towns and from those private plantations which have been receiving electricity from Coonoor to the effect that occasionally the supply failed. I am just mentioning this circumstance to show what advantage there will be if Government have an interest in this matter, not a pecuniary interest but an interest in the sense that they can attend to the wants of the consumers and rectify any defects that might be discovered and I may say that such defects will not be uncommon. Further in the interests of these officers themselves, it would be a great advantage. At present if a municipality does not want an engineer entertained by them for some time past, he has no chance of getting a place elsewhere. There is also not much chance of promotion. If on the other hand, there is a regular service for these men, transfers could be effected and the Government would be in a position, as also the Chief Engineer for Electricity, to find out which engineer would be fit for which municipality, because it will be noticed that these power stations are not of equal capacity nor is there any uniformity in the systems employed by the various municipalities.

12-45
p.m.

"I think, therefore, it would be advantageous both to the municipalities and the officers concerned, if there was a common service. The next question is how that is to be effected, how that object is to be achieved. If there is a service and if the Chief Engineer should attend to these things, there must be an office, apart from the Chief Engineer's office, to attend to this work. That is why the appointment of an engineer and of the clerks is suggested.

"The hon. Member for Salem would find that this is a very highly technical department; he will also recognize that this is a new science

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to our Province at any rate. There will be lot of work to be done by the Chief Engineer by way of scrutinizing and supervising, by way of looking into the papers coming from the engineers employed in the municipalities. At present we are not looking into these things. Occasionally, perhaps now, when representation is made to the Chief Engineer, he may send the Inspector of Electricity and he may himself attend to the work; that is purely a work of gratuitous help. There is no obligation on the part of the Government now, because we have nothing to do with the electrical services of the municipalities. Hereafter it will be a regular service, not a provincial service in the sense that the Government would pay them, but a municipal service, which cannot be controlled or supervised by the municipalities themselves, a service for which an outside authority is necessary for proper control and supervision. That outside control can come only from the Chief Engineer's office. Hon. Members are aware how full the hands of the Chief Engineer are just at present. He has got the Mettur Project on hand; he has got on hand other schemes for Bezwada and Vizagapatam—the Lambasingi Hydro-Electric Scheme. Heaps of such work are coming and it is impossible for him to attend to this work in addition to his own, unless he is given an assistant who can attend to this work; the Chief Engineer can only supervise the work. That is why there is a suggestion to appoint an assistant engineer. I am informed that the assistant engineer is not required. That answers the point raised by my Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. Only one upper division clerk is required. Those were the proposals that were originally made and at the bottom of the page, hon. Members would find that only one upper division clerk on Rs. 55—70 is required for the Chief Engineer for Electricity. A small staff is required in the Chief Engineer's office and it is very satisfactory indeed because we have to incur very little expenditure. Therefore, other questions do not arise.

“My hon. Friend from Cuddapah wanted to know why the Government should exercise control over this staff and why should not the man who pays the piper, call the tune. By all means; if the municipalities can manage themselves, the Government would only be too glad to be freed from work of this kind. In the interests of the municipalities themselves the Government have undertaken this task and this is an advantage instead of having no control, no advice or help from above. All these advantages are there. I do not think it requires many words from me to convince the House of the need for a grant of this kind.

“So far as the Sanitary Engineering establishments is concerned, I am sure my Hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, will let the House know. I gather that there are 47 engineers in various municipalities; though the number of the electrical engineering staff is not so large at present. I may tell the House that very many municipalities have been clamouring for a large number of electric schemes for their municipalities; the Government have been finding it almost impossible to cope with the work; the municipalities themselves have been making these appointments.

[Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu] [30th January 1936]

“ Another question was asked why the first service should be called the Madras Municipal Engineers Service and the other service, the Madras Local Authorities Electrical Engineers Service. So far as the district board engineers are concerned, I believe that the service has been provincialised already. Some district boards have been insisting that they should themselves take up the electric schemes. The name ‘ Local Authorities ’ would include municipalities and district boards. That is all the difference between the two. I do not know if it is the object of the hon. Member to say that whereas the district board engineers have already been provincialised, why should not the assistant engineers in the district boards be included in this cadre and called the Madras Local Authorities Civil Engineering Service or something of that kind. On that point, I must confess, I have no information at all. My Hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, will reply to that point. But so far as the Engineering service is concerned, this is a very small matter and I am sure the hon. Member would withdraw his cut motion.”

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ Sir, while I do appreciate the attempt of the Government to provincialise these services of the local bodies, I may point out that the recent complaint against the Government is they are trying to curtail the powers of local bodies; in the name of efficiency, the autonomy of local bodies is certainly being very much curtailed. I do feel that local bodies should administer efficiently. It is one thing to say that local bodies should administer efficiently and it is quite a different thing to say that they should constitute themselves as it were into so many bodies attached to the chariot wheels of the Government. Where is the need to curtail the powers of local bodies? Though the Hon. the Law Member said that he agreed with the proposition that the person who paid the piper should call the tune, here we find the Government saying they should call the tune and that the local bodies should pay the piper. If Government are going to provincialise these services, they should contribute at least a certain share of the expenditure involved. Now the whole expenditure involved is being met by the local bodies; and the Government have the entire control. The local bodies pay for the services and the Government order them. I therefore feel that this is yet another inroad on the autonomy of the local bodies. I feel that we are not doing the right thing by the local bodies by agreeing to this demand.”

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

(3) GRANT XX—PUBLIC HEALTH—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ Sir, I beg permission to take up item No. 4 now, as the discussion we had now, covers practically both the items 2 and 4.” I beg to move the motion standing in my name—

“ On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under “ Grant XX—Public Health—Transferred ” ”.”

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* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Sir, I wish to say a word or two on this grant. While welcoming the proposal, I would like to request the Government to consider the cases of not only Bachelors of Civil Engineering who are in service now as assistant engineers or supervisors employed in the various municipalities but also upper subordinates who are now serving as senior supervisors, when forming the provincial cadre. I also hope that the present incumbent will be absorbed and that none will be adversely affected. I thank the Government for this necessary step of provincialising the service. May I hope that this will be followed by other proposals to provincialise the whole service. With these words I support the motion."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

(4) GRANT XIX—MEDICAL—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that—

'the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under "Grant XIX—Medical—Reserved and Transferred."

The note ^a which has been circulated to hon. Members, explains though briefly the circumstances under which this demand is being moved. The question of establishing a medical college in the Telugu districts first came up for consideration before the Government in the year 1917. In view of the increasing demand for higher medical education in the Presidency, the Government decided in that year that a second medical college must be opened in this Presidency and they were also of opinion that it should be located in the Telugu country preferably at Vizagapatam where a new up-to-date hospital was being constructed and there was a Harbour scheme under consideration which, if it became an accomplished fact, would largely increase the population of the town. They were also advised and they accepted the advice that the establishment of a second medical college like this in the Telugu districts was not in any manner going to affect the intended development of the Medical College at Madras. Though this decision was taken by the Government in the year 1917, owing to various causes the scheme was being delayed; and in 1919 the hon. Mr. V. Venkata-pati Raju moved a resolution in the Legislative Council recommending to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs should be provided under '22. Education' for raising the Medical School at Vizagapatam to a college. Replying to this resolution of the hon. Member, the Hon. Sir Alexander Cardew who was in charge of the portfolio at that time gave the assurance that, as soon as the necessary clinical material became available by the development of the hospital, Vizagapatam would get the college for the Andhra portion of the province.

^a Printed as Appendix XII on pages 236-238 infra.

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [30th January 1936]

1 p.m. " He added, however, that he hoped that the representatives of the Telugu country and the Ceded districts would keep on pressing the matter on the Government till they got it. No time would be lost he said in making arrangements to bring about this college. The representatives from the Telugu area, i.e., from the Northern Circars and the Ceded districts, accepted the advice of the Hon. Member of Government and went on pressing for the establishment of a college, and in 1923 this demand of the representatives of those districts was granted and a college was established in that year with the concurrence of the Finance Committee and this Council. Subsequently also, the college which had only a small beginning, was developed in various directions, so as to make it more efficient and make the instruction imparted there up to date, and more attractive in many respects. All the expenditure required for these developments was incurred with the concurrence of the Finance Committee and of the Legislative Council, and the college has now reached a fairly good though not the required standard of efficiency. Under section 11, clause (4) of the Indian Medical Council Act, the Indian Medical Council has to make arrangements as early as possible after the establishment of the Council, to inspect the colleges under the Universities of Patna, Rangoon and Andhra with a view to see if the medical certificates granted by these Universities could be recognized by the Indian Medical Council. Hon. Members will see, as is mentioned in the explanatory note circulated to them, that the Indian Medical Council has not yet recognized the degrees granted by the Andhra University to students of this medical college. The Medical Council therefore sent a commission of three of their members to inspect the Medical College in Vizagapatam, and to make their recommendations. After their recommendations were received, the Surgeon-General and the authorities of the Andhra University met and considered the report of the commission of inspection and accepted to a great extent the recommendations of that commission. The equipment of the college, the staff and buildings had to be improved, and the minimum that was required was reported to the Government. The Government considered the question whether these improvements were to be made or not. If the improvements were made, the Indian Medical Council would, in all probability, recognize the degrees of the students who passed out of the college maintained by the Government; if these improvements were not made, the degrees would not be recognized, and all the medical education given to students in the college would be wasted. As between the two alternatives, the Government certainly chose the proposal to make the necessary improvements. As I have already pointed out, the Government and this Council have repeatedly recognized the need for a second medical college in this Presidency, and a considerable amount of money has already been spent on the establishment and development of this institution; and if the Government were not prepared to spend something more now and equip the college up to the standard required by the Medical Council, the consequences would be disastrous. It was in view of these circumstances that the Government, as I said, decided to make the improvements. It was not however possible to make all

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the improvements that were required such as the building operations in the course of a year or two; as funds permitted, those improvements would be effected as quickly as possible. But there were some immediate improvements which could not possibly be delayed and on which the Medical Council was quite insistent. For this purpose, expenditure had to be incurred even during the current year. The college was very much under-staffed, and if the education imparted was to be up to the standard, some additional staff was required. The present demand relates only to that additional staff; the other expenditure that is required is included among the Part II schemes of the next year, and those schemes in due course will come up before this hon. House when the Budget is placed before it and the various demands in it are considered. At present, as I submitted, Sir, the additional staff that is immediately required has to be sanctioned and it is for that purpose that a token demand of Rs. 100 is now being moved.

“The Finance Committee before whom this proposal was placed did not accept it; but I hope after hearing now a fuller statement of the facts of the case and in view of the imperative need for the additional staff that is now asked for, even the hon. Members who opposed it in the Finance Committee will revise their opinion and accept the reasonableness of the demand now made by the Government.

“With these words, Sir, I move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XIX—Medical—Reserved and Transferred.”

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“Sir, I beg to move that—

‘the allotment of Rs. 100 under “Grant XIX—Medical—Reserved and Transferred” be omitted.’

Sir, this is one of those token demands which appear very simple and modest at first sight but which ultimately commit us to a very large expenditure. As the explanatory note will show, the full scheme, if it is to be given effect to, will cost us about Rs. 16 lakhs, and the annual recurring expenditure will be about Rs. 1½ lakhs. Now, what is the object of this demand? It has been said that the degrees obtained in this college have not been recognized either by the British Medical Association or by the Indian Medical Council. Inspectors were appointed to inspect the college and find out the defects in the college which stand in the way of recognition by the Medical Council, and as a result of their report, the Government now want to strengthen the staff. It will be interesting, Sir, to note what the Director-General states regarding this: He states that the Council cannot be expected to give an assurance on the question of recognition, and we can only hope that recognition will be accorded. So, there is no assurance here that the degrees will be recognized; and even if the improvements suggested are effected, it is open to the Council still to refuse recognition of the degrees. Under these circumstances, we must consider whether it is worth while spending this money when the position is so uncertain.

[Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar] [30th January 1936]

“Sir, the number of students that study in this college is about 218 or 219, and it varies in each year; and about 80 or 90 of these students come from areas other than Telugu areas. I would therefore ask the Hon. Minister whether it will not be possible to have these students admitted in the Madras Medical College. If the accommodation is not sufficient, we can provide additional accommodation so as to admit more students who will be greatly benefited by the first-class teaching staff here.

“Further, as has been pointed out, the Finance Committee has not recommended this demand. Not only this Committee but I understand that previous Finance Committees also did not approve of this proposal. (An hon. Member: ‘No.’) Anyway, I am sure the Finance Committee would have had greater details about the scheme and they must have gone very carefully into the matter and should have had sufficient reason for rejecting it. That being so, I suggest that in the present circumstances when the financial state of the province is not very encouraging, it is not desirable launching upon a costly scheme like this which would ultimately commit this House to an expenditure of about Rs. 16 lakhs and an annual expenditure of Rs. 1½ lakhs.”

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“Sir, in seconding this cut motion, I would like to ask whether it is advisable to undertake such a heavy expenditure at this stage. I am no doubt in sympathy with the idea of spending as much money as possible on education, and especially on the improvement of medical education and the improvement of hospitals and dispensaries. But before we incur such a huge expenditure as this, we must consider the question carefully.

“Just now, Sir, we are almost in the transition stage for the new Reforms, and it has been repeatedly said by the Government themselves that we must conserve our resources and expand it too in the interests of the future Government. Besides, we have got to take up other and more pressing items of expenditure, such as for instance, the provision of drinking water-supply. In the Salem district, Sir, there is acute distress in respect of drinking water even at the headquarters town, not to speak of villages, and a scheme has been in the air for a very long time now, but nothing tangible has come out of it so far. If such vital needs as water-supply, etc., are to have priority, then I am afraid schemes such as the one before us have necessarily to be postponed for the time being and must await better times.

“Recently, Sir, we were also threatened with a statement that the finances of our province were unsatisfactory and that consequently a new tax on tobacco had to be imposed. Fortunately, however, the recent announcement in the papers of the figures taken for the compilation of our next Budget, has made it clear that we are not likely to be faced with any such difficulty. Still, having regard to the enormous ultimate expenditure that this scheme entails, I think, Sir, that we should consider the question very carefully as to whether we should take it up immediately or whether it cannot be postponed for some time.

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“ Sir, the Finance Committee also seem to have stood against this grant and the reasons of the Government for overlooking that decision are set out in detail in the note. I should also like to know the specific principles on which the Government have gone against the decision of the Finance Committee and come forward with this demand at this stage. Coming to the details given in the note, I find that the demonstrators for physics and chemistry have been provided on a fixed salary. I want to know whether no scale of pay is found necessary in this case. I would be glad to have that information. I think there is justification for putting off this question for the present as it is not so pressing and the ultimate expenditure involved is rather very considerable.”

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry that my hon. Friend on this side of the House has moved a motion to omit this grant. My hon. Friends have been saying that I have also given a similar motion. I wish to point out that my motion is intended to elicit more information. The idea is that this question has been pending for a sufficiently long time and the British Medical Association has been pressing upon the Andhra University as well as upon the college that unless certain essential defects and deficiencies were remedied, it would not be possible for them to recognize this institution as a medical institution; and my idea in giving notice of a motion is to find fault with the Government as to why they have not taken steps earlier enough to remedy those defects in order to see that it is affiliated along with the other colleges in India. Sir, this institution was started after a great deal of agitation and after feeling the necessity for the establishment of another medical college in this Presidency. It was started under the auspices of the late Raja of Panagal, who thought that it was to be the seat of the future Andhra University as well as of the Andhra province. It is now felt that it has been voted down by the Finance Committee probably because it is located in the Andhra centre. (A voice: ‘ Question.’) Of course, I am only saying that it is the public feeling entertained by the Andhras generally. I am not questioning the right of hon. Members here to express their opinions, but all that I say is, the feeling is so strong in the Andhra country that the motion has been rejected in the Finance Committee on linguistic grounds. (A voice: ‘ Question.’) I am not believing that statement; all that I say is that that is the public feeling. I am only saying that while a lot of money is being spent on medical education in the southern portion of the Presidency, I do not see any reason why you should not have a professional college in the north also to cater to the needs of the people in that part of the Presidency. You have got a number of medical schools in the south. We thought of establishing another medical school in Guntur and spent a lot of money on construction of buildings, but you have closed it down on financial grounds. There is therefore no reason to remove the only existing medical college in the northern portion of the Presidency; and there is also no reason to close it down after having spent a lot of money in building the college and a hospital and after having entertained great hopes of them. After

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all the sum that is sought to be spent, that is; a non-recurring grant of about 16 lakhs of rupees and a recurring grant of a comparatively small sum, is relatively small when compared to the money that you are spending on the Medical College in Madras or the other arts colleges throughout the Presidency. My submission to this House therefore is this, that we can stop even some grants for the improvement of the arts colleges, but we cannot stop improving the professional colleges, either engineering or medical colleges or things of that sort.

“Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, was telling the House that this money could better be spent in the improvement of water-supply and public health. I may tell him that the establishment of a medical college, improving it and training a number of medical men is also equally necessary in order to see that public health is improved in the Presidency. My submission to this House, therefore, is that at least in order to allay the feelings of the Andhras in regard to this matter, we should all vote for the grant.”

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“Mr. President, Sir, the Medical College in Madras is a first-class college, well-equipped and well-staffed and to have another college in Vizagapatam at an extra expenditure, of a non-recurring grant of 16 lakhs and an additional recurring grant of 1½ lakhs every year is only a luxury. It was elicited at the meeting of the Finance Committee that the Medical College at Madras will be able to accommodate the few students that come from the Andhra districts or those who are studying or will be studying in the Vizagapatam Medical College. Sir, this heavy sum is not to be thought of at this time of depression. Moreover, it was stated that the Telugu country requires a separate medical college. I do not think the entire Telugu country will be benefited by locating one college at the other end of the Andhradesa. If it is to be in Guntur or Kurnool, I can understand it, because it will be somewhere in the centre of the area. As a matter of fact, for the Ceded districts and for certain other Telugu districts, Madras is nearer than Vizagapatam. If, however, it is considered necessary, the Medical College at Vizagapatam may be continued as a medical school and thus the money spent on the buildings there will not be wasted. Especially when the Director-General does not find any reason for recognizing this college, there is no justification for spending a large sum on a matter like this. I therefore oppose the grant and support the motion.”

Sri A. V. BHANOJI RAO:—“Mr. President, Sir, I am really surprised at the attitude taken up by my hon. Friends, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder and Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar. At the same time, I am not surprised to find Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder speaking, because we always find his name in every agenda. But, what arguments have they advanced for not having this allotment for the Medical College at Vizagapatam? I think it was Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar who said that there was no guarantee by the Director-General of Indian Medical Services as to recognition. I do not think he has understood the position clearly. The Medical Council of India have stated that certain things are

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defective and they have recommended certain modifications and unless those things are done, they are not going to recognize the institution. If the college is not going to be recognized, what will be the fate of the Andhra students who pass out of the college and what will be their plight in the medical world? Hon. Members will recognize the very great hardship to which the students who pass out of this institution will be put to. Some hon. Members have stated that it is a matter for the future and that it is a very simple matter. I say it is not such a simple matter but a very important matter.

“Coming to the argument advanced by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, that funds should be provided for rural water-supply, I am one with him in that respect; but may I tell my hon. Friend that the medical profession is equally useful and important for the rural population of India? If you compare the population of western countries with the population of India, you will see that the percentage of men belonging to the medical profession in India is far less than in western countries and that it is a profession which every one should see that it is maintained.

“Then there is another argument which my hon. Friend has advanced, and that is, that the Finance Committee has cut down the proposal. But the Hon. the Minister has pointed out that this college was started as a result of agitation in the Andhradesa for the establishment of such a college. Whether it be the Swarajists, Congressites or the Justicites, Brahmans or Non-Brahmans, Muhammadans or Christians, the unanimous cry has been for a separate medical college for the Andhradesa and it was under the auspices of the late Raja of Panagal that this college was established. One can easily imagine under what difficulties this college was started, originally with a small building and so on, and we can well realize under what great hardships the persons who were then in charge of the institution worked in order to make this college a success. Subsequently, we know what kind of anxiety the University, the present Vice-Chancellor and the Principal of the college had for the last so many months because they felt if the college was not recognized what the amount of suffering would be which their own students might have to undergo. Under such conditions they had to work in order to make the Government realize the importance of providing funds for the equipment of the college.

“Mr. President, Sir, another argument that has been advanced was that the Finance Committee had not sufficient facts before them when they decided on this question. If only they had known the full facts, I am sure they would not have voted it down. Probably, every one of the members of the Finance Committee thought that it was not so very important; but they did not consider the seriousness of the question for a moment, namely, what would happen to the college if funds are not provided. When I met one or two members of the Finance Committee, they also stated that they did not realize the gravity of the situation if the college was to be closed down. Sir, it is not possible to say that

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the Finance Committee were fully aware of all the facts when they decided this question. If only they have the full facts before them and if the Hon. the Chief Minister would convince them, I am sure they would revise their opinion and see that what the Government has done is right.

“One more point, Sir, and I am done. Our thanks are due to the Government for the way in which the various Members of Government have taken up the question and our thanks are also due to the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University and to the Principal of the College, for all they have done in the matter of providing funds for the Medical College at Vizagapatam.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“As several hon. Members are willing to speak on this grant, let us have lunch before we hear them.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“The motion before the House involves not only the particular issue on which we are now called upon to exercise our votes but also raises the question relating to the policy of the Government regarding medical help in this province. My hon. Friend, Mr. Bhanoji Rao, in the course of his remarks drew pointed attention to the fact that taking the masses of people in our province there is no adequate medical provision for their relief. That I believe is a proposition to which every member of this House will give his hearty and unqualified assent. But how exactly and in what manner this adequate relief is to be provided for in the province is a question which the House is called upon to consider in deciding this particular issue. I believe, Sir, the Government have not been following any steady or consistent policy in this matter. A large amount of help is felt to be necessary not so much in big cities and towns but in the rural areas of our province. There are scattered hamlets all over the province where such a thing as medical relief is a thing unknown for all practical purposes and is impossible of being secured. In such a case what exactly should be the policy of the Government, what exactly are the measures Government should adopt to bring medical relief to the nooks and corners and to the remotest rural parts of the province. In considering this matter, Sir, the question is whether we are to have high grade colleges producing experts and highly qualified experts, possessing high medical degrees which meet with the hall mark of approval of the Indian Medical Council or whether it is more necessary that you should provide adequate means or adequate institutions for the purpose of turning out a larger number of fairly competent medical men (such as the L.M.Ps. are,) who will be in a position to go and settle in the remotest parts of the province and thereby render medical relief to the poorest inhabitants. I think the people have a legitimate grievance. There were a number of medical schools in the various parts of the province. [There

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was a medical school in Madura, there was a medical school in Tanjore, there was a medical school in Coimbatore and I believe in Guntur also. I see Mr. Krishnayya Choudari nodding his assent and I think in Guntur also they put up a building for a medical school at a very high cost and it was almost completed.) But when the money has been expended upon the necessary institution and when the accommodation and everything is complete, down comes the fiat of the Government that there shall not be a medical school, not only in Guntur but in other parts like Madura, Coimbatore, Tanjore, etc. In fact, I believe in Tanjore not only did the Government not continue their school at their own expense but I am credibly informed that there was private munificence and yet the Government would not carry on the medical school. Well, apparently in the policy of the Government every medical school shall be concentrated in Madras. It shall be the only medical school. If that is the policy followed by Government thus far how does the Government ask the Council to change the policy, to turn the current back and then vote a large sum of money including a heavy initial capital outlay and a large recurring expense in the shape of maintenance for the Vizagapatam Medical College? I protest against Government providing medical colleges and at the same time neglecting the running of the necessary number of medical schools in the various parts of the Province. I would submit to the consideration of the Government that for the purpose they are having in view, viz., the providing of medical relief to the remote hamlets of the Province it is more necessary that we should have a large number of men of ordinary qualifications and not high grade specialists with expert qualifications but men of the grade of L.M.Ps. In the present scheme of things L.M.Ps. are fairly competent men and I understand that the Madras Medical School is an extremely well equipped school turning out very competent men. Under these circumstances why should Government close down the medical schools in the various parts of the Province and ask for a large sum of money for Vizagapatam. It has been said that the college has been started, that much money has been expended for starting and running the institution and that it is necessary that it should remain a competent institution to secure the hall mark of the Indian Medical Council. This is a proposition with which all the members of this Council would agree. It is necessary that the Vizagapatam Medical College should be run on a sound and efficient basis. It must be so run as to secure the approval of the Medical Council; otherwise the degrees would be of no use. They will be a sort of waste paper. It is of course necessary that necessary provision should be made therefor. But for the sake of consistency, reason and logic I would submit to the Government if in their anxiety to provide adequate medical relief they are prepared to spend for a large college it is equally necessary, if not more necessary, that Government must find means for re-opening the medical schools closed in the various parts of the Province, and also if necessary start new ones. I think we may train a large number of L.M.Ps. with the money that we have to spend for a high grade college. I do not say that the college is unnecessary. But we have to provide

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the necessary foundation for a superstructure. There should be the foundation and the basis on which we can rear and build the higher structure of a high grade medical college. But to have a medical college without medical schools is like having colleges without high schools. It will be like Government saying that we must have more colleges, abolishing the high schools. The necessary foundation would be lacking if we abolish our medical schools and spend our money on colleges. I am sorry that my hon. Friend, Mr. Peddi Raju, in discussing this matter threw out the suggestion that the provision had been rejected by the Finance Committee because it related to the Andhra area. Later on it was followed by a qualifying statement that he did not believe it. It is more imperative, then, that he should not have made the statement at all. I would assure the House there was no such idea in any of the members of the Finance Committee. The thing that influenced the Committee to come to that decision was that provision of medical schools was a more imperative necessity. But if in the light of the various facts which have been given by the Minister in charge of the portfolio and in view of the opinions expressed by the members from the Andhradesa, it is found that this college should be run and if Government are prepared to find the financial provision I have absolutely no objection. In making such provision for the colleges Government should in all fairness, logic and consistency and reason make even greater provision for the re-opening of the medical schools in the various parts of the Province."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, in participating in a debate like this I do not want it to be understood that any controversy has been raised against the college in the Andhra districts as opposed to a college in the Tamil districts or in the Kerala districts. Let us not view this question from that point of view at all. On the other hand let us realize from the outset that this question relates to a second medical college in the Andhra districts. It is not that there are two colleges in the Andhra districts but it is a second college which is going to be established permanently in the Andhra districts. Now we must examine before we can give an impartial vote whether there is any real need or demand for that college. In the first place the districts are not very far off from Madras, nor is the distance greater than it is from Trivandrum to Madras or Mangalore to Madras. The distance from Vizagapatam to Madras and from the southern-most corner of Madras Presidency to Madras are almost equal. That being the case, when you have a first-grade college and a well-equipped college whose degrees have been given recognition by the Inspectors that were sent out for inspection, why do you require a second college for catering to the very same needs?

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p.m.

"Now, Sir, does the Government realize what exactly they are about? They are going to have a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 16 lakhs and a recurring expenditure of not less than 1½ lakhs every year. Is there such an imperative demand, such an imperative necessity, that there should be a second college at Vizagapatam? Sir, after

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all what is the case that the Government has made out in support of this college? They say that the degrees given by that college are not recognized and that in order to secure recognition for them from the Indian Medical Council we ought to spend Rs. 16 lakhs of public funds and also charge the revenues to the extent of Rs. 1½ lakhs every year. That is all the case. The case is that we should get recognition. What happens really if recognition is not given? No doubt, as has been pointed out already, if the college is to continue and if its degrees are to be recognized by the Indian Medical Council, you will have to rectify the defects. The Inspector says you had better comply with *a*, *b*, *c* and *d*. If it is easy for the Government, if the times were normal, then certainly it is reasonable that we should do everything to remedy the defects and then make these degrees recognizable by the Indian Medical Council. On the other hand, at a time when you are really starving many other departments, when you are not able to find funds for essential services, when you want to raise Rs. 12 lakhs by further taxation and when you are still not able to show a surplus budget and when there is constant fear on the part of the Finance Member that the budget will show a deficit, does it stand to reason that you should go and invest, although stage by stage, 16 lakhs for a medical college? Is it or is it not a luxury? That is the important question, Sir. Is it or is not going to be an extravagant luxury too, if it is not going to be an ordinary luxury? What is it that prevents students from coming to Madras, then undergoing the course here and getting the degrees which are also recognized by the British Medical Council, not to speak of the Indian Medical Council? If it is argued that the degrees already granted have not been recognized, that is not going to be remedied by raising the status of the present Vizagapatam Medical College. What is it you are going to do? The Inspectors have found that the institution does not come up to the standard, up to the mark. Then, the wisest thing to do from the point of view of the Hon. Minister in charge and that of the Hon. the Finance Member is to close down the college, to make it a permanent medical school and be satisfied with it. You are not going, in spite of spending Rs. 16 lakhs, to get the degrees already granted recognized in a shorter time. It might be five years or even ten years from now, when you will be able to get the degrees of that college recognized. By the mere spending of Rs. 20,300, according to the present grant, while the ultimate cost is over Rs. 16 lakhs, what is it you are going to achieve? It is within the discretion of the Medical Council to appoint Inspectors, and those Inspectors will have again to go into the question and investigate and make a report. Where is the assurance, where is the guarantee, that the degrees will be recognized after all? I consider this a colossal waste of money. I say waste because the Government have not been able to find funds for an institution like the Mental Hospital at Madras. I have been a visitor to that hospital for the last one year, and I have found that the hospital is in a most deplorable condition. It is a disgrace to the Government of Madras and to everybody connected with the administration of the portfolio of medicine and public health.

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that the Mental Hospital should be left in the condition in which it is to-day. There is accommodation hardly for 800 patients, and that hospital now contains 1,200 patients. The Superintendent of that hospital has applied time and again for extra accommodation, for extra buildings, for extra equipment and for extra comforts to patients, and every time the report that has been published by the Government says that the Mental Hospital cannot be improved and that they cannot find funds for the purpose. A steam laundry is required for the hospital, and you are not able to provide it at a cost of Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000. The other day, when I was in the Finance Committee, the modest demand that was made by the Superintendent of the Rayapuram Government Hospital for a steam laundry to wash clothes, to have cleaner clothes for the patients, was refused and the scheme was put in class III. When you are not prepared to spend Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000 for a very essential service in the Government Hospital at Rayapuram, you will not be doing the wise thing by incurring Rs. 16 lakhs of non-recurring expenditure and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 1½ lakhs.

"The Hon. Minister in charge of the portfolio was very kind to give us the whole history of the institution. The history does not make out a case. He has not really made out any case for the expenditure of this huge sum. He said that the degrees have not been recognized. He also said in the course of the arguments that it will be disastrous if this college is not going to be raised to the status that the Inspectors want it to be. Where is the disaster? I fail to see any. On the other hand, if you are going to spend Rs. 16 lakhs, though it may be spread over a number of years, that is a disaster to the public revenues and to the public finances of this Presidency. I implore that that disaster may as well be stopped by this House voting against the motion.

"Sir, there is one other institution which has been starved, and that is, the Indian School of Medicine, representing the indigenous system of medicine. The Indian School of Medicine requires every help, every encouragement, and it has been established some ten or twelve years ago. But what is the progress that the institution has made? It has been agitated on the floor of this Council that there should be greater and greater encouragement to the Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha systems of medicine. What is the help Government have rendered to it apart from maintaining the school, equipping it with a poor staff and giving it a few buildings? Apart from that, the Government have done nothing to encourage the system of Indian medicine. The Principal of that school has been applying to the Government for extra staff, for extra accommodation. Have the Government been able to provide funds for that? The Government have been pleading financial stringency. How exactly that stringency has gone and how the Hon. the Finance Member has reconciled himself to this expenditure of Rs. 16 lakhs when he has starved, though not deliberately—when he has been unable to find funds to help—the institutions at Madras for the purpose of enlarging their

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activities it is difficult to understand. The Government have not been able to find funds to support local bodies and municipalities to open a large number of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries. The Unani dispensaries in this Province to-day are not more than seventeen. No doubt, the Government have sent round circulars that the municipalities ought to encourage the Unani system of medicine and open more and more dispensaries. If the municipalities are starved of their revenues and are not able to spend more and if the Government do not dole out larger grants, by whom or from what source will the indigenous systems of medicine be encouraged? When you are not able to find funds for such necessary things, why do you go in for a luxury, for another Medical College in the Presidency? Is not the Medical College at Madras able to satisfy the people from the Andhra districts? Is not that college now inviting students not only from the Tamil districts but also from the Kerala districts? Is not that college undertaking to train students from the Punjab, from the United Provinces and from the Central Provinces? There are a number of students who have passed from that college and established themselves everywhere in the country. People have spoken about it, and I think it was Sir George Stanley, the late Governor of Madras, who said that in the East the Medical College at Madras, with the hospital attached to it, is one of the best. When the Punjab students are sent down to the Madras Medical College and when the Central Provinces people are sending their candidates for training at the General Hospital or at the Maternity Hospital or at the Radiological Institute situated in Madras, what is it that prevents students from Andhra districts from coming down here and taking advantage of the training that is afforded by the Madras Medical College and the hospital attached thereto? Are the Government, I ask, in a position to say that they have considered the scheme of expanding the Medical College to meet its full requirements? Have they considered the question of increasing the accommodation in the Medical College, of increasing the staff, of increasing the equipment in the Medical College at Madras? Are they able to say that they have examined these schemes and found them impossible, when they are going to invest Rs. 16 lakhs for this scheme of raising the status of the College at Vizagapatam? Even if you find the money for it, this scheme will not come to fruition within the next five or ten years. Such being the case, let us consider whether this Council is really taking the right step in voting for this token demand of Rs. 100, while the ultimate cost involved is Rs. 16 lakhs.

“ Sir, the Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the minimum requirements of the college would cost Rs. 16 lakhs. It does not stop with Rs. 16 lakhs. It may go to Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 lakhs or more. The note circulated to us says that it will be over 16 lakhs. It is not really Rs. 16 lakhs or anything less than Rs. 16 lakhs, but it is over Rs. 16 lakhs. Sir, the hon. Member from Vizagapatam said that the condition of the degree-holders, and of the students undergoing training in this institution at Vizagapatam, ought to be kept in mind and that

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hon. Members should not ignore that aspect. I am not one of those who are prepared to ignore that aspect. If those degrees are not recognized, if that college is closed, the University of Madras, might afford all facilities to take over those students of the Vizagapatam College and to provide them with every opportunity to qualify themselves. I do not see why there should be a duplication. Is it simply because there are a few students there undergoing medical courses? It has been the policy of the Government—at any rate the Hon. Chief Minister has been saying so—to invest more funds in higher education in any line whatsoever, whether it be in the professional line or in the arts line. If the Government are not going to invest more funds either for higher or for university education, then this Council will be too glad to vote for as much money as possible for primary and secondary education. That is a very sound policy. Probably Government have not yet decided to give effect to that policy. Time may come when they will have nothing to give to the universities, and the universities should depend upon private foundations. It may be that the time has not yet come. That time will surely come when the Government will cut away all connexion with the universities. Let more public bodies and individuals come forward and give donations and foundations for higher university studies and for research and so forth. If that is the ultimate policy and if the Hon. the Chief Minister is thinking of laying the foundations for that stage being reached, then, where is the justification for a second college in the Presidency, whether it be at Vizagapatam or elsewhere, whether it be an arts college or a professional college? It is time now to look up and see what exactly are the demands, the necessary and legitimate demands upon the finances of the Government.

“There is another question, Sir. The Hon. Minister gave us the history of the agitation which resulted in the establishment of the college at Vizagapatam. Does he realize that such agitation could also be carried on by the Tamilians in the Tamil districts for a separate medical college being established in the Tamil districts? My hon. Friend from Tinnevely, Mr. Daniel Thomas, has said that the policy of adding to the medical colleges should be revised in favour of having more medical schools and that the question of reopening the medical schools at Tanjore, Madura and Coimbatore which have been closed must be revived.

3 p.m. “That is only one part of the agitation; but it is also quite likely that all the 11 or 12 districts in the South plus the Malabar district may say ‘We shall have one college in the South and one in the West.’ Are Government going to pay heed to such agitation? The Hon. Minister has already indicated that the public should carry on agitation for another college in the Tamil districts. Now, there has been a policy of centralization which the Government have been following for some time in the matter of local boards. They have been trying to have headquarter hospitals and district hospitals and so forth. So why should we not have a central college, one college most efficiently

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equipped, and most efficiently manned and the best college, at Madras and be satisfied with it? What is in the way of making such a thing possible? Will we not thereby save lakhs of rupees and will not that saving be available for other more useful sources of activity? I think the Government owe a duty to the hospitals already existing. You are already starving the Education Department; you are starving very many essential services; you are not prepared to give money for rural reconstruction and for developing the indigenous systems of medicine. So what is the justification for spending 16 lakhs on a luxury, a pure luxury, and that for the sake of a few students, and without any assurance that that college is going to be recognized in the near future? Even as the lawyer's profession is becoming overcrowded, the medical profession is fast becoming overcrowded. I do not think that anybody would deny that. The students turned out of the Medical Colleges at Madras and Vizagapatam have yet to be absorbed in Government service. A number of doctors are without employment. When the profession is overcrowded, why should you go and encourage another institution at Vizagapatam? It is not the case that people are wanting. There are hundreds of doctors to-day in Madras who are ready for employment if the Government would only open more dispensaries, more clinics, throughout the Presidency. Why not employ them? Why go and multiply these graduates in the various centres and then create the problem of unemployment. (Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: 'Birth-control clinics.') Yes; birth-control clinics, leprosy clinics—more institutions of that kind are required. The Government are not really able to do anything in that direction and yet they want the luxury of a college at Vizagapatam at a cost of 16 lakhs.

“Sir, there is another aspect that I would point out and that is nearer home. I refer to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital. The Superintendent of that hospital has been applying time and again for extra accommodation. The donations made to it have been very niggardly. There is a large space attached to it; the patients that visit it are numerous; the children that have to be treated are increasing, and doctors are not quite enough to attend to them; beds for in-patients are wanting; and every time we ask, 'Why turn out a deserving case from being admitted?' the Superintendent says, 'Where are the beds for them all? After all, for the women's section that is the only hospital for the whole Presidency, and that hospital is very ill-equipped. Instead of improving that hospital with a few lakhs you want to invest 16 lakhs on a luxury. There is every justification for utilizing these 16 lakhs if available and if the Hon. the Finance Member can spare it, in other directions, in more useful directions and get the best benefit out of it. After all, the advantage that would be gained by raising the status of the Vizagapatam college after spending 16 lakhs and more and then incurring a recurring expenditure of one lakh and a half will not be commensurate at all with the amount invested on it. Therefore I ask that we should pause before we give our vote to

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this demand; voting on this demand need not and should not be based on Andhra *versus* Tamil or town *versus* mufassal controversy at all. There is no room for such animus in this matter. So I would respectfully say that this is a very unnecessary and unjustifiable luxury and it ought to be discouraged."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, after the torrent of eloquence which is quite irrelevant to the subject-matter before the House, and after the expressions of disgrace and disaster used by the hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, in regard to this institution

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"No, Sir. I did not use the word 'disgrace' in relation to this institution. I said that the way in which the Mental Hospital is being maintained is most disgraceful."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Memories are short, and in moments of excitement expressions are used by Members which they do not mean but which they are prepared to withdraw, as the hon. Member has rightly withdrawn from the position which he has taken up.

"He said it is a disgrace to the Government and disaster to the State in taking this course. Apart from these expressions (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'My friend is misrepresenting me.') which are very common on the lips of the hon. Member, what I would submit is that the question before the House is not one of an expenditure of 16 lakhs or a recurring expenditure of 1.50 lakhs. It is ridiculous in the extreme to talk of huge expenditure. Of course it means that for the purpose of employment of additional staff in this college, what is wanted is an expenditure of Rs. 1,400 for the current year while the ultimate cost for one full year will be Rs. 20,300. That is the demand; that is what the Minister wants the House to sanction. (Interruption.) I think there are some natures which are irrepressible, and which are always unreasonable. False issues often arise from the fertile imagination, rather the very fertile imagination of the hon. Member, and then he begins to beat the air and wax eloquent over nothing. That is the position. The question is, there is a college at Vizagapatam. The hon. Member asks whether this institution is necessary in view of want of increasing accommodation and staff of the Madras Medical College. I would ask the hon. Members to take up the case of the Muhammadan College at Madras. I was the author of it. I placed it on a prosperous footing. Now I would ask him to say in all sincerity whether there is need for such an institution while you have got thoroughly equipped colleges in Madras. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'I accept the challenge.') When I mention that, it touches him to the quick; whereas eloquence is spent in the case of an institution which he favours and which he wants to improve in spite of other colleges at Madras. I am making a personal appeal to him to be reasonable. His arguments against Vizagapatam are altogether unreasonable. In spite of the institutions at Madras, we have a separate institution for the Mussalmans, a first-grade college over which we have spent lakhs of rupees in equipment. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed

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Sayed: 'There are Hindu students in the Muhammadan college; may I invite his attention to that?') What does it matter? A good parliamentarian will never rise so often as my hon. Friend. The hon. Member in opposing this motion asked, why there are other institutions which are not helped; therefore cut the expenditure on this. In reply I would ask Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed to brush up his memory and go back to the time (he was not in the Council then) when the late lamented Raja of Panagal instituted an enquiry, obtained the necessary information and founded this institution. It was gradually developed and it is now rising to be one of the first-rate institutions in India. Now, Sir, my friend's ignorance is colossal; he should rest content with the little knowledge he possesses in connexion with this subject instead of airing all his fancied grievances, grievances such as that the mental hospital and the lunatic asylum has not been adequately provided. I don't know whether he was ever there for inspection.'

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I must rise to a point of order. However aged my friend the hon. Member for Ganjam may be, he must be moderate and not indulge in such frivolous and foolish language."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member only mentioned that he was a visitor to the Mental Hospital." (Loud laughter.)

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I have visited persons like him there."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"He spoke with inside knowledge of the want of accommodation and various other things in that institution; he has got a detailed knowledge of that institution. He has further said, and I quite agree with him, that the Government should provide the necessary funds for remedying the defects and improving the conditions in other institutions as well. No one will dispute his position to that extent. It is absolutely necessary that we should keep our hospitals in good working order. But what I don't agree with him on is that in his desire to help the other institution he wants that expenditure on this institution should be cut off. The conditions in the Medical College were enquired into at the time and it was found that the accommodation in the institution was insufficient and unsuitable for the large number of students that flocked to it every year. It was for that reason that another institution was founded at Vizagapatam where there was the King George's Hospital. The college at Vizagapatam is very ably staffed. Really first-class surgeons and first-class doctors who can hold their own against the other members of their profession are there. But the Inspectors of the Medical Council want some more staff in that institution so as to make the standards of that institution come up to the standards of medical education obtaining elsewhere. I am not on this occasion going into the merits of the report of the inspectors. But this much I may say: in England most of the hospitals are run by private help and are not dependent on

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State subsidy. In our country the conditions are different and the Government are obliged to spend large sums every year, though not as much as 16 lakhs as interpreted by the hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed.

“ In this connexion, Sir, one has to remember that in the Vizagapatam Medical College there are students from all parts of the Province. There are students from Tamil districts and also from Malabar. It is not an institution conducted exclusively for the benefit of the Andhras. As the Madras Medical College is not able to accommodate all the students who seek admission to it, the Vizagapatam college supplies the need. It is therefore absolutely necessary to have this college at Vizagapatam. Now the only question is the need for raising its standards to the level suggested by the Inspectors of the Medical Council. Sir, this is an institution which from small beginnings has grown into a big banyan tree. Is it not part of wisdom to encourage its growth and make it a satisfactory institution? I do not think anybody will grudge it the encouragement it deserves and refuse to agree to carry out the recommendations of the experts in medical education.

“ Then, Sir, another Member of the Finance Committee, Mr. Daniel Thomas, in his quiet way, said: ‘ I do not want the development of the Medical College; I want more medical schools to be opened for turning out more L.M.Ps. These L.M.Ps. are more in demand.’ No one denies the proposition that rural medical aid is a great necessity. But I will turn to him and ask: ‘ Why allow the Madras Law College to turn out more and more B.Ls. and M.Ls. every year? Why not have second-grade law colleges which will turn out muktears (Laughter) and the old type of *eachamaram vakils* (Renewed laughter)? Why do you want lawyers of the cultured type well versed in the knowledge of jurisprudence and so on? We do not want them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, said that there is a great congestion in the professions and that more doctors are not required. May I, with all respect, ask him why he is an addition (Laughter) to the legal profession? I do not mean anything personal. What I am saying is that that argument does not hold water. My friend knows it and he was in a humorous vein when he spoke of unemployment. My hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas also said or implied that half-educated or ill-educated medical men will do for the rural areas. But he forgot the fact that even they require training under some highly qualified medical men before they can be put in charge of our rural dispensaries. We want more rural dispensaries no doubt. But could you staff them with untrained and half-trained men? To staff those dispensaries properly we require young men trained in properly equipped institutions like the Vizagapatam Medical College. Thus it is necessary that we should strengthen the staff there and improve the studies.

“ One hon. Member said that the University (Andhra) is struggling hard. Well, if a University is struggling hard or somebody is struggling hard, it is not our concern. What we are concerned with is the

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strengthening of the Vizagapatam Medical College as required by the experts of the Medical Council and for that purpose it is but reasonable that this House should vote for this demand."

* Diwan Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I want only to show this House that the Vizagapatam Medical College is a necessity and not a luxury. (A voice: 'Hear, hear.') Every year, for lack of accommodation we have to deny admission to young men to these two medical colleges. Nowadays large numbers of our young men take to medicine after passing the Intermediate examination in arts. Those that are denied admission include many boys belonging to the backward communities. We make it a rule to admit the candidates belonging to backward communities and then others. In spite of that, many young men belonging to the backward communities are left out. The House will realize from this the insufficiency of accommodation in our medical colleges. The strengthening of the staff of the Vizagapatam Medical College is very necessary because otherwise it will not be recognized by either the Indian Medical Council or the British Medical Association. They suggest that we should equip the college and also the hospital where the students are to be trained, in such a way that the Indian Medical Council will recognize their degrees. I say it is a necessity that the Vizagapatam Medical College should be improved so that its degrees may be recognized by the Indian Medical Council. If we do not improve it, the moneys that we have so far spent on it will be a waste. We want that college and we want the students of that college to be efficient and useful to the public. Now that the Government has come forward with a demand for 16 lakhs for that institution, our financiers say, 'Oh! what a heavy sum!' Other countries are lavishing money on education, especially on medical education. When my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnayya Choudari was referring to it, I thought it was Rs. 60 lakhs. It is not so. It is only 16 lakhs. I hope the House will sanction this sum.

"Sir, I am thankful to Mr. Basheer Ahmed for putting forth all our grievances especially that relating to the Victoria Gosha Hospital. I am glad that Rs. 12 lakhs have been set apart for the Gosha Hospital alone. Only small sums out of this allotment are granted every year. They are slowly improving the hospital. The out-patient department there is still inadequate; but by the time the whole of this allotment is spent on it, the institution will become large enough to meet the needs of the public. Now, Sir, if this sum that is proposed to be spent on this hospital serving the needs of only a portion of the population is not enough, what about the needs of the college? When they demand that Vizagapatam Medical College should be well-equipped, should not that demand be met? Sir, I only want the Minister to consider this. The proposed administrators in that college are non-medical men. They should be medical men. A physics graduate or M.A., even though he is an expert in physics, cannot teach the medical students physics as applied to medicine. A Chemical Examiner is the chemistry professor of that medical college. That is an ideal thing. I want.

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3-30 p.m. medical people as professors and demonstrators. I want graduates in Arts and Science with medical qualifications to teach the students there. I do not know why they omitted the demonstrator in Biology for this college suggested by the Surgeon-General. A knowledge of Biology is as necessary for the medical students as a knowledge of chemistry or physics. So I hope the Government will consider these things. I request the Hon. Minister in charge to see that a graduate in physics with a medical degree or a degree in any science is appointed to teach the boys there.

“ Our young men pass many high examinations in Arts. They do not want to go to medical schools. There they require only S.S.L.Cs. The medical schools were not popular. They abolished medical schools in most of the places. Now the L.M.P. course is not so very attractive as the M.B. course. Well-equipped men should go to rural parts and not men with half qualification, not only in the North but also in the South and West. The L.M.P. course consisted of three years' course previously and then they raised it to four and now they have it as five years' course. Now the question is whether to abolish L.M.P. and have only one degree, M.B., B.S. So L.M.Ps. are being coached in the same way as M.Bs. They read the same books as M.Bs. Mr. Basheer Ahmed said that we must have a medical college for the South. By all means let us have it. But let us not abolish the Vizagapatam College. You may have another in the South.

“ Now, Sir, I would point out that there is one medical man for every 20,000 people in the Presidency. I want that there should be at least one medical man for every 1,000 people in the Presidency. There are rural parts where there is no medical aid. There is one sub-assistant surgeon for a headquarter hospital and when he goes out from the headquarters, patients who are suffering from acute diseases there suffer very much. We want as many medical people as possible and we want as many rural relief centres as possible. So considering all these things, a medical college in Vizagapatam is a necessity. Now they want Rs. 16 lakhs. I wish it had been Rs. 60 lakhs. What is the use of spending on elementary education if you have not enough of medical men. As for the death of medical people, they die for want of medical people to attend on them. All medical people are useful. Now they wanted to have the Madras Medical College built on the site of the Spur Tank, failing which they are spending lakhs of rupees for remodelling the present building of the Madras Medical College. Now they are going to spend 16 lakhs for the Vizagapatam College. There is no use of spending this amount part by part. It is right they sanctioned, I believe, 30 lakhs, for the Madras Christian College and other Arts colleges and the Annamalai University. I want a similar amount spent on this medical college.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHoudari:—“ Some hon. Members spoke about a second medical college at Vizagapatam as a reduplication and said that it was not necessary. My point is whether the Madras Medical College could accommodate all the existing students in the Vizagapatam

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college. If it can accommodate, I quite agree to the scrapping of the Vizagapatam Medical College. As a matter of fact the Madras Medical College is not in a position to accommodate the boys that are studying in the Vizagapatam college. If these boys are to be accommodated in the Madras Medical College, it would require more money than what would be required for continuing the existing college at Vizagapatam. I got this information from the Surgeon-General who is a better authority than my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar or any other Member of this House. When we asked the Surgeon-General in the Finance Committee, he said that the Madras Medical College could not accommodate any more boys than there are at present in that college. If we want to accommodate all the boys of the Vizagapatam College in the Madras college we will have to spend something like 40 lakhs. That is what he stated. We have already spent some 50 lakhs for erecting a building at Vizagapatam and this will become a waste if we abolish the college there. The question is whether we should spend another 16 lakhs for having a college at Vizagapatam or spend another 60 lakhs for the Madras Medical College.

“By having a medical college at Vizagapatam it is not meant that we are showing any favour to the Telugu country because it is only a question of allowing the boys there to pursue their studies at a lesser cost, because Vizagapatam is not a costly place as Madras. This is the reason why boys from South Kanara are coming to the Vizagapatam college. So, Sir, by having a college at Vizagapatam it would facilitate boys to have their education at a lesser cost.

“Another reason for continuing the college at Vizagapatam is that it has been in existence since 1923. Even the Retrenchment Committee, although they first thought of scrapping the college, afterwards dropped the idea. As such I do not think there is any necessity to abolish the college at this late hour. For the last four years the degrees of the college have not been recognized. We made the students understand that the degrees would get recognition. Now if the degrees are not recognized it will not only mean loss of prestige to the Government but it will also be very undesirable.

“I would ask the Hon. Minister who has taken the trouble of bringing forward this demand as to why he has not circulated the inspection report of the Medical Council for the information of this Council. He has not also circulated the same to the Finance Committee. I do not know why he has not done so.

“Some of the hon. Members said that the Andhra University has programmed to spend 16 lakhs of rupees in a period of five years. If that is so, what is the programme? I was also made to understand that the spending of Rs. 16 lakhs would include provision for some buildings for the Principal and so forth. I do not think it is necessary to spend part of the amount on such buildings for the Principal and so on. I request the Hon. Minister to carefully scrutinize the proposals once again with the assistance of the Surgeon-General and Mr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar who is also a Member of the Medical Council.

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He can constitute a small committee if he likes to go into the whole question and see what is the minimum amount to be spent for getting recognition of the college at Vizagapatam. All these luxuries can be thought of later on. I was told that the building for the Principal alone costs something like one lakh.

“ Mr. President, there is no question of Tamilians or Telugus. I can assure other hon. Members of the House that the Finance Committee have not considered the question from that standpoint. They considered the question purely from other standpoints. I would also request Telugu Members that they should not think that the decision of the Finance Committee was such because it consisted more of Tamilian Members.

“ Mr. President, Mr. Daniel Thomas said that as we are having too many high schools we must have more arts colleges. That reasoning will not apply, because, if a candidate wants to take up the medical course, he need not go to an arts college. After finishing his school course in a high school, he can go straightway to a medical college.

“ I personally feel that for rural improvement more doctors are necessary and so I would suggest to the Hon. Minister to provide more money for opening rural dispensaries, so that the students who come out of the medical colleges can be safely provided with appointments. I would once again appeal to the Hon. Minister to support this scheme without any hesitation. I also thank the Hon. Minister who has taken so much interest in this cause although the Finance Committee has thrown out the proposal, and also the Hon. the Finance Member. I do not know if any other gentleman has taken the trouble to carry out the scheme. My hon. Friend Mr. Bhanoji Rao has mentioned specially that the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University has taken some trouble in this matter. I do not know how far these gentlemen have taken any trouble. Perhaps it is like ‘ You scratch my back and I will scratch yours ’ and they have been praising each other. Whatever it might be, I personally feel that the real people who have taken any trouble in the matter are the Members of the Government including His Excellency the Governor and I want to thank them for that.”

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—“ I move that the question be now put.”

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I shall call upon the Hon. Minister to speak.”

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—
“ Mr. President, Sir, I am sure my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar’s speech would have convinced hon. Members of the House that the Medical College at Vizagapatam is not a luxury but a necessity. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar’s speech is entitled to special value as he is an experienced medical practitioner himself and he must have spoken on this subject with a great deal of knowledge. I may also mention that at the time the Vizagapatam Medical College was established the whole

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question was fully examined by the Government. When this scheme was under consideration the Government had also a proposal under consideration of building an up-to-date Medical College on the Spur Tank in the City of Madras. The Government consulted the Surgeon-General whether the establishment of a College at Vizagapatam would be necessary in view of the fact that a Medical College on up-to-date lines was going to be built in the City of Madras. The Surgeon-General gave it as his advice to the Government that the proposed Medical College at Vizagapatam would serve the Telugu districts and that its development would not be affected by the new College to be built on the Spur Tank. The Government therefore decided that the Vizagapatam College should be started as early as possible. It was not without a deliberate consideration of the *pros* and *cons* of the proposal that the Government took the decision to build the College at Vizagapatam. Then the question of the necessity for this College came up for consideration more than once before committees constituted to enquire into the condition of medical institutions in this Presidency. In the year 1930, when Mr. Muthia Mudaliyar was in charge of the medical portfolio, he appointed a committee consisting of several medical practitioners in Madras—non-officials—who went into the question fully and they recommended the retention of this College at Vizagapatam. They considered it to be a necessity as in their view, with which hon. Members may or may not agree, the need of Madras is not so much for more doctors as for better doctors. In that view, the Committee was definitely of opinion that the Vizagapatam Medical College should be retained, but at the same time they recommended the abolition of certain medical schools in the Presidency. It was in pursuance of that recommendation that some of the medical schools were abolished. I may tell the hon. Member, Mr. Daniel Thomas, that the Government in abolishing these schools acted on the recommendation of such a responsible committee as this committee was. Then again, in 1931, the Retrenchment Committee which went into the question of retrenchment in all the departments of Government was for retaining this College at Vizagapatam. And so, whenever the question came up for consideration whether this College was necessary or not, the verdict has always been in favour of retaining this College as it was necessary in the interests of the Telugu area.

“ My hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed, though he deprecated argument based on consideration of Andhra *versus* Tamil, I am afraid, used that very same argument in support of his position. He said: if you are afraid of agitation from the Telugu area, a similar agitation would be started in the Tamil districts and would you yield to it and start a college somewhere in the Tamil districts? That kind of argument, I do not think, is worth much when the need for the Vizagapatam College is, as I said, fully established and the College at Madras serves the interests of the Tamil districts as well as any college established in Trichinopoly or some other place in south would. There is nothing in the argument that the Government have unduly yielded to the agitation from the Andhra area. I was rather surprised that he being a member of the Syndicate of the Madras University, should have

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taken up such a hostile attitude towards the development of an infant University like the Andhra University. If this proposal of the Government is going to be negated by this Council, the result will be that one of the important faculties attached to the Andhra University will be cut out altogether, as there will be no Faculty of Medicine at all in the Andhra University. Is that a position which my hon. Friend who is on the Madras University and also on the Annamalai University would look upon with equanimity? Well, the Andhra University deserves encouragement and help. Instead of giving that, an important University-man like my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, would do just the opposite of encouraging such a University.

“Sir, as so many hon. Friends have spoken on this subject and have supported the proposal of the Government, I do not think it is necessary for me to advance any further arguments in support of it. I can only assure them that it was after a most mature consideration of all that can be urged in favour of as well as against the proposal that the Government came to this decision. I do not think, Sir, that the hon. Members who have opposed this proposal have fully realized the implications of the non-recognition by the Indian Medical Council of the medical degree of the Andhra University. It is not worth anything. The medical degree, as my hon. Friend Sir Patro pointed out, is a mere scrap of paper; and for securing that mere scrap of paper, are the students and the Madras Government to spend such a large amount in maintaining the Medical College? Most of the considerations urged against this proposal might have been relevant at the time the idea of the establishment of a College at Vizagapatam was first mooted. Now that the College has been established, the question is whether it should be abolished altogether or whether it should be made worth while for students to get their education there. Most of the arguments advanced are, I submit, absolutely irrelevant and I hope the Honourable House will accept the proposal of the Government and sanction the grant that has been moved as a token grant.”

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Is Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar pressing his motion?”

*MR. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“May I just say a word? If the Hon. Minister clears my apprehensions, I may not press my motion.”

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Yes.”

*MR. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“My main objection to this token demand is that in the guise of a token demand for a small sum the province is about to be committed to a huge amount of recurring and non-recurring expenditure. I hope, Sir, the Hon. Minister would enlighten the House on the full implications of this token demand. The hon. Member from Ganjam interpreted this demand as committing the House to an expenditure of Rs. 1,400 and said that any discussion about the question of committing the Government to a huge expenditure

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of Rs. 16 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 1½ lakhs recurring was beside the point. But unfortunately the Hon. Minister did not say anything on that point.

“Then, Sir, having regard to the opinion of the Finance Committee in this matter who should certainly have gone into the details of the scheme, if the Hon. Minister gives an assurance that the vote of the Council on this demand will not commit the House to anything more than the expenditure of Rs. 1,400 and that the question of the expenditure of further huge suras will be scrutinized by the House later on, I will withdraw my motion. On the other hand, if the Hon. Minister is of the view that this demand will commit the House to the large expenditure both recurring and non-recurring, I am afraid I must press my motion.”

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“Sir, I do not think it is a question of my personal view of the matter. The note is sufficiently clear. If the scheme is accepted, what the probable expenditure involved will be is mentioned in the note. Subject to detailed examination, the Government have accepted the scheme that has been put forward. We have taken the House into our confidence and told them what the intentions of the Government are in regard to this matter. The answer does not depend upon my personal view; it is a matter on which my hon. Friend from North Arcot is as much entitled to hold a view as myself; it is a question for the Chair. Whether by voting on this demand the House will be committing itself to the entire expenditure the Government may intend to incur on the scheme, is not a matter which depends upon my personal view. The note is there and it says what the scheme is, what the ultimate expenditure might be but that the immediate requirements are only so much. But the Government cannot incur the expenditure which may be required in the future without their coming before this House. The amount will be in the budget and at that time it may be open to hon. Members of the House to discuss the provision in the budget. That, I take it, is the correct position and I do not think any further personal undertaking or expression of my personal views can be given in this matter.”

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Is the hon. Member (Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar) pressing his motion?”

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“Yes, Sir.”

The cut motion was put and lost.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

(5) GRANT XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.^a

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under “Grant XXIX—Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred”.’

^a Explanatory note printed as Appendix XIII on pages 238-242 infra.

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [30th January 1936]

Sir, this demand deals with three items for each of which a token demand for Rs. 100 is moved. The first item deals with the acquisition of a bungalow with compound in Mangalore for use as residence for the Collector of South Kanara. The second relates to the purchase of the old Municipal Hospital buildings and site at Coimbatore. The third relates to additions and alterations to the Government House, Guindy. The Explanatory note circulated to hon. Members explains each of these three items.

“Coming to the first item, acquisition of a building for use as residence by the Collector of South Kanara, at the present moment the Collector of South Kanara has no official residence. He is put up in a rented building which is owned by four people jointly. Attempts were made in the past to get the building put in good order so that the Government might take a longer lease of it, but owing to litigation among the several owners, no settlement could be reached. Then it was proposed to acquire the bungalow and the site but it was found to be too costly. Subsequently however, it was reported to Government that acquisition could be made for a lesser amount, that the foundation and masonry were perfectly sound and that the roof timbers were also renewed a few years ago. In the meantime the Collector reported to Government that a suit notice from a person who had purchased a part ownership of the building had been received by him claiming arrears of rent which he had already paid as usual to the person owning the share in question. Secondly it was also found that no other building could be had which was suitable for housing the Collector. The Government also think that it is unsatisfactory that the Collector of the district should be at the mercy of private landlords. So, it is proposed to acquire the building and the cost of acquisition is mentioned in the note—Rs. 48,557 for the compound, for the necessary contribution for compulsory acquisition, for repairs and so on. The amount can be found from the provision made in the Civil Budget Estimate for the current year under this head of account and a demand for supplementary grant for a token sum of Rs. 100 is moved. I hope the House will accept the demand.

4 p.m.

“Coming to the next item, the Municipal Hospital buildings were originally given to the Municipal Council, Coimbatore, for use. The Arts College was accommodated in that building for some time. Subsequently when the Medical School at Coimbatore came to be closed, its buildings were placed at the disposal of the authorities of the Arts College and the Arts College was moved there. The plea of the Municipal Council, Coimbatore, now is that when the building was in their occupation, they effected certain improvements to the building and that they also constructed new buildings. Instead of wasting money on litigation, the Government came to a conclusion that a compromise might be arrived at; a compromise has been effected and it is proposed to pay the Municipal Council Rs. 27,500 in final settlement of all claims and to get full ownership of the buildings. The building is being used by different offices of Government. Necessary

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funds can be found by re-appropriation. A token demand is therefore moved for getting the sanction of the Council.

“The third item deals with improvements to be effected to the Government House, Guindy. The Government have recently decided that the Government House, Madras, should be the permanent residence of His Excellency the Governor and that the Government House at Guindy should be his week-end residence. The building is too large and the maximum amount of convenience cannot be commanded. With a view to make the building more useful, it is proposed to make necessary alterations and additions at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,00,000. As early as 1930, a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was provided for this purpose ; but the work was given up because it was found at that time that it would not be economical to carry out the work. Now it is found that, if necessary alterations could be made, such of the buildings as will not be required by His Excellency, might be let out to Government Officers. In the present year it is proposed to start the work. A token demand for Rs. 100 is moved, so that the work can be proceeded with, with the sanction of the Council. The provision necessary for the next year, 1936-37, will be made in the budget estimate of that year. The necessary sanction of the Secretary of State has been obtained for effecting improvements and alterations to the building. The expenditure is debitable to the head ‘Capital’ along with the other items of expenditure of a similar nature necessitated by the inauguration of the Reforms, all of which combined are estimated to cost over Rs. 5 lakhs. As I said, I move this token demand to get necessary sanction of the Council to start the work. I hope the House will be pleased to pass the demand.”

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“Sir, I beg to move the cut motions standing in my name:—

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 100 of item (a) under “Grant XXIX” by Re. 1.’

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 100 of item (c) under “Grant XXIX” by Re. 1.’

My object in moving these motions is to get further information. I agree with the Hon. Minister that the District Officials should not be at the mercy of a private landlord. But I would suggest that, in the matter of acquisition of the building, the Government should be as economical as possible. The original estimate for acquiring this building was Rs. 79,000. In the revised estimate for acquiring the building now it is stated to be Rs. 48,000. By the adoption of the former method, the cost of acquisition of the building was Rs. 79,000. By a different method of calculation, the estimated amount is considerably less. I hope the Hon. Minister will explain the position. He will also tell us, I think, what rental value will be fixed upon this investment, what is the amount that the Government will get by way of rent. No doubt it will vary according to the pay of the different officials who occupy the building. Still, the Hon. Minister will be able to give us a rough idea of the amount of rent which the building will fetch.

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“Then with regard to the third item—additions and alterations to the Government House at Guindy—it is stated that in the year 1930, a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was sanctioned by the Secretary of State for expenditure in connexion with sanitary installation, drainage arrangements, etc. The expenditure was not incurred as it was considered later that the scheme would be uneconomical in view of the condition of the house. Since then, there has been no change in the condition of the house. It is in the same condition in which it was not though advisable to carry out repairs. The Government now say that they are going to add to or alter the entire building. They are not bettering the condition of the building now. I do not know how the Government are justified in spending large sums of money on alterations and additions when the state of the building is bad. It is stated in the note that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been allotted for improvements in connexion with the inauguration of the Reforms. I want to know what the other improvements or proposals for construction of new buildings are, which will cost Rs. 4 lakhs.”

* Mr. K. A. NACHIVAPPA GOUNDER:—“Sir, I beg to move the cut motions standing in my name:—

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 100 of item (a) under “Grant XXIX” by Re. 1.’

['To avoid arbitrary acquisition and to suggest the construction of a new building if necessary later on.']

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 100 of item (b) under “Grant XXIX” by Re. 1.’

[To elicit further information.]

“I do not move my third cut motion as it will be covered by the amendment of Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar.

“I would like to ask whether there is any pressing necessity to acquire the building in South Kanara. It is stated in the explanatory note that this building had been used by successive Collectors for a very long time. They have been living in that bungalow without any difficulty whatsoever. No trouble arose up till now. Recently we find that the Collector has been subjected to some litigation, on account of non-payment of rent to one of the owners of that building. From what we know about this case from the newspapers, I should say that this is not a matter of much gravity. It is a matter of litigation between the landlord and the tenant; and naturally the landlord will seek a remedy if the tenant does not pay heed to the notices issued by him for payment of rent.

“We find that the question of acquisition of the building was considered in the year 1930; the cost of acquisition was Rs. 55,000 and the cost of repairs was Rs. 24,000 and odd. Thus the total cost came to Rs. 79,000 and odd. Now the cost of acquiring the building is estimated at Rs. 41,347 and the cost of repairs at Rs. 7,210. The ultimate cost comes to Rs. 48,557. The explanation furnished for this difference does not seem to be quite satisfactory. There is a great

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variation in the cost of repairs as estimated in 1930, and now. In 1930, a sum of Rs. 24,000 and odd was required for repairs ; now it is only Rs. 7,000 and odd. That means to say that the owners of the building have carried out many repairs since the year 1930, and the building should be in a fit state for living. How is it, then, that the value of the building now is very low ? That is a point which has to be looked into. If the Government can make a saving, of course, we must welcome the proposal but it should not be arbitrary in the interests of the individuals also. The whole question seems to be mysterious and it requires further explanation ; and full facts should be made available.

“ In the explanatory note it has not been stated whether the Finance Department has given its acceptance to this proposal or not ; in other cases it has been stated whether the Finance Department has approved or disapproved them. This information should be furnished to the House. I must draw the attention of the Government to the fact that they have to look to much more important things first, before considering the question of providing quarters for their officers. There are many other important proposals lying idle without being taken up. For instance, in my own district, there is the question of the construction of a new building for the Women's Hospital at Salem and although the question of hospitals, etc., has been sufficiently dealt with in the previous demand, I am afraid I cannot refrain from referring to it here. The Queen Alexandra Hospital for Women at Salem is in dire need of a building, and the Surgeon-General himself has been pressing the question of the provision of a building for this hospital for a long time now. The question has been shelved all these years on the ground that there is no money available for it. The hospital is struggling hard for accommodation and that question must receive the immediate consideration of the Government. When there are such proposals already before us requiring immediate attention, but kept back for want of funds, I do not think, Sir, that a proposal like the provision of accommodation for officers has sufficient justification for being brought up now. I think, Sir, that even if this question is put off for some time, the Collector may not be inconvenienced very much, and they can rent buildings themselves.

4-15
p.m.

“ Another question to be considered in this connexion is whether it is worth while acquiring an old bungalow. The description given in the explanatory note shows that a good deal of expenditure has been incurred on repairs. I want to know whether the question of putting up a new bungalow has been considered. If that is done, I think Government can have some savings under ‘ repairs ’ in future years.

“ With regard to the estimated amount, again, some elucidation is necessary. In 1929-30, the area of the site was shown as 11 acres and 30 cents, while now it is put in as 23 and odd acres. In spite of this variation in area, the value of the bungalow including the site is put at a much lower amount. That point also requires to be explained

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in detail. Then, I pass on to the second item, i.e., the municipal hospital buildings at Coimbatore. In this connexion, I must point out that the Government have been in the habit of not looking into such questions properly. The Government seem to have been evading payment to the municipality for a good number of years. The question of compensation arose, I think, in the year 1911, when the building was vacated, and the municipality had to be given its due share ; but the Government, in the exercise of their powers, have been evading payment to the municipality all these years. This policy of the Government is not correct, and one of the objects of my giving notice of this cut motion is to point out to the Government that such a policy is wrong. I can point out a case in the Salem district where a building was transferred to one of the late taluk boards for utilization as a school, but some years afterwards the Government took up an opportunity of snatching away the building. It was after repeated representations that the building was left over for the use of the school. I think, Sir, that local bodies should be shown some amount of respect in such matters and whatever is due to them should be paid to them immediately, instead of their being made to wait for as long a time as the Government please, or their being driven to resort to unhappy proceedings in civil courts. I request that at least in future the Government will see that their present policy in this respect is revised.

“ Lastly, with regard to alterations in the Government House at Guindy, I want to have some information. I am glad to see that some provision is made for the accommodation of officers, and thereby some income by way of rent will be realized. I should like to know who are all the officers to be provided with such accommodation, and what is the amount likely to be realized from those officers by way of rent; also, whether the amount to be so realized as rent will be commensurate with the amount now proposed to be spent.

“ The mover of the motion has already requested for detailed information, and I would also desire to have the information, as to how the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs which has been estimated in connexion with the inauguration of the Reforms is to be spent.

“ For these reasons, Sir, I move the cut motions standing in my name.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ There are four cut motions for discussion along with the main demand—two by Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar and two by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. For the sake of convenience, we shall have all the cut motions discussed together and disposed of separately.”

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I wish to deal first of all with the first item regarding the building required by the Collector of South Kanara. I must say that the arguments advanced by my friends, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar and Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, were very reasonable; but if they knew the facts, I do not think they would have opposed the proposal. In the first place, as regards the estimate, I myself had some misgivings; I could not understand how the building

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the cost of acquisition of which was estimated at Rs. 79,000 some years ago could now be acquired for a smaller amount. I find however that one reason for the discrepancy is that a large amount was estimated for repairs some years ago, whereas now a much smaller amount is found sufficient. The reason is given in the note itself, viz., that 'it has since been reported by the Executive Engineer, West Coast Division, that the foundations and masonry are perfectly sound and the roof timbers were also renewed a few years ago.' I know the building personally and therefore I am in a position to say that the note is absolutely correct. The building is a very fine one, one of the finest and perhaps the finest building in Mangalore, and is a suitable building for the Collector to live in. The Governor comes there and has got to be accommodated in some suitable building. Many important functions take place now and again, and it is desirable that the Collector should be housed in such a commodious and nice building. I am sure, Sir, that if the hon. Members who spoke just now had gone to the building and seen it, they would never have objected. It has got a very fine view and it is certainly worth the amount now demanded for it. In fact, the objection raised by my friends seems to be that the amount is too small, so small that it cannot be correct, and that later on the demand may be increased. But it must be remembered, Sir, that the value of land has fallen considerably and that since the old estimate was made the value has gone down to a very great extent. It is therefore quite possible to acquire this building for the modest sum now asked for.

"I think Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder stated that there is no reason for acquiring the building now, seeing that so many Collectors have been successfully occupying the building and there has been no difficulty felt all along. I may however tell him that it is not so; the Hon. the Revenue Member, when he came to Mangalore, found it so difficult to have any repairs effected that he went to some other building and lived there. I think there has been some difficulty in getting the house repaired, because, as pointed out in the note, there are four owners."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does it make the acquisition easier?"

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"The difficulty, as pointed out, is that it is very difficult for the Collector to have any repairs effected, and I know that recently the Collector had to spend a lot of money out of his pocket—I think about Rs. 2,000. Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar said—and that argument is contained in the note itself—that Collectors and officers of that type should not be at the mercy of landowners. If this building is not acquired, it will be very difficult to find another building for the use of the Collector. I know that when Mr. Souter was there, this building could not be repaired and he had to take another house which also was not suitable. It is essential that officials like the Collector, the District Judge and similar officers should not be under obligation to landowners. They should be provided with quarters, so that they may not have to go and beg the landlords for the carrying out of repairs, etc. They ought to be placed in an independent position. Therefore, on principle, I think this amount for the acquisition of the bungalow.

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for the Collector should be approved. As my friend here, Mr. Raman Menon, points out, it is also a business proposition, because it will fetch a proper interest; but even if it does not, the proposal is a very good one, because, as I said, otherwise, whenever a Collector comes, he will have to go and beg for a house from somebody—and I do not know whether such a course will not even lead to corruption. As a rule, officers should be kept above all chances of corruption and should have no necessity to be under obligation to anybody.

“As regards the municipal hospital buildings site, I think the best argument for it has been furnished by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder himself. His only grievance seems to be that the municipal council has been kept waiting too long.

“As regards the Government House at Guindy, I do not think any argument has been advanced against it. It is but desirable that suitable repairs should be carried out to an old building like that which has been occupied by the Governor for so many generations.

“Under these circumstances, I hope, Sir, that the cut motions will be withdrawn.”

4-30
p.m.

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Mr. President, in view of the speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, it is hardly necessary for me to deal with the criticisms that have been levelled against the acquisition of this bungalow.”

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—“Before the Hon. Minister replies to the points raised, with your permission, Mr. President, may I just say a few words? I endorse what Mr. Sreshta said about this bungalow. When I went to South Kanara in 1924, my predecessor who was just then leaving the place, told me he had had about six inches of water in his dining room during the monsoon—and he had to move his furniture from one place to another and hardly found a place to put his bed—and that because the roof of the bungalow was so leaky, it was impossible for him to live in it. After a little bit of experience of it and finding the sun came through the roof, I was forced to leave the bungalow which was occupied by Collectors for many years previously and go to another bungalow which, as Mr. Sreshta said, was certainly not suitable, but the only bungalow which I could find in the place. I asked the landlord, or one of the landlords, whether he would do any repairs to that bungalow and he confessed his complete inability to do so, because he could not get the consent of his co-owners. I understand this state of things went on for some years, but some repairs, I believe, were done by one of the co-owners and Mr. Gawne, now Collector of the district, in particular, spent a very considerable amount of money out of his own pocket to do the repairs which were necessary for the house to be made habitable. Sir, I think, this condition ought not to be allowed to continue and that surely is not in accord with the dignity of a Collector—whether he is a European or an Indian—that he should be under such obligations to a private owner and that he should be under the necessity of continually begging his landlords to effect the necessary repairs to a bungalow for which he is paying, I believe,

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Rs. 160 a month as rent. That rent, as hon. Members of the House will agree, is a considerable amount for a bungalow of a decent size in Madras itself. I may remark also, that even on sentimental grounds, there can be little objection to this acquisition for this reason. The land on which the bungalow is situated was given on lease by the East India Company in the old days under what was called the Sheffield Grant, to a private owner on condition that he should erect a bungalow which would be suitable for servants of the company to live in. That lease was for 99 years which I think, expired by about 1906. When the thing came up, in spite of the recommendations of the then Collector and the Board of Revenue to resume the lease of the land and the bungalow thereon, the Government granted the land on patta. The owner at that time strictly adhered to the conditions of the original grant, that is to say, the bungalow was kept in fair order and was reserved as a residence for the Collector of the district. I am afraid, since then, troubles have arisen owing to the transfer of the property from one owner to another and the trouble became more acute after I went to Mangalore; and it seems to me it is but right and proper that this bungalow should be acquired.

"I may point out further, as one hon. Member suggested, that the Government should build a new bungalow for the Collector, and that apart from the question of the difficulty of finding a site, which I think all Members who come from South Kanara will recognize, a new bungalow for a Collector's residence, will cost about Rs. 60,000, that is, Rs. 13,000 more than the cost involved in the present acquisition. The repairs to this bungalow will only come to about Rs. 6,000 and including this, the cost of acquisition will come to about Rs. 47,000. There will thus be a net saving in any case of Rs. 13,000 if this building is acquired, instead of a new building. Quite apart from any sentimental or other reasons which may exist, it seems to me that it is profitable to acquire this building, and I do trust this House will pass this demand."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, there is very little for me to add with reference to the acquisition of the bungalow in question, except to answer one or two points. I was asked what would be the rent that this building would fetch after this building has been acquired and repaired. The rent would be about Rs. 200 and it is not necessary for me to say that any officer who occupies it will pay either the standard rent or one-tenth of his salary, whichever is less.

"Then, coming to the transaction of the municipal hospital buildings in Coimbatore, the municipal council has been giving a lot of trouble to the Government. Let me say that if the municipal council had only agreed earlier, there would have been no trouble. At that time they wanted to keep the old building on the ground that certain buildings were constructed by them and that certain improvements were effected by them. It was pointed out to them then that as the municipal funds were not spent on them they were not entitled to the property. The Government in order to protect the interests of the public and the taxpayer, had to carry on a negotiation with the council. It will not be.

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advisable for Government to go to a court of law to settle disputes if they can be settled otherwise. I may say that Government do not treat the local bodies or municipal councils harshly and they always deal with these bodies generously. I believe the present arrangement gives satisfaction both to the Council and to the Government and I do hope the House will accept this demand also.

“Then, I come to the points raised regarding additions and alterations to the Government House at Guindy. If only my hon. Friends had cared to go through the notes carefully, no further explanation would be necessary for me. No doubt in 1930, a lakh of rupees was sanctioned by the Secretary of State for sanitary installation, drainage arrangements, etc., in the Government House, Guindy. But the expenditure was not incurred as it was considered later that the scheme would be uneconomical in view of the condition of the House. Now, what is proposed is to alter the building in such a way as to make the House small and to make it an economical residence for the Governor. Incidentally I may point out to hon. Members of this House that such other portions of the House as would not be required for His Excellency the Governor's use would be given to officers of Government for their occupation; and in this way Government would derive Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 per annum by way of rent from them. So, hon. Members will see that we are not spending money without any profit to Government. (Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: ‘But how are you going to improve the condition of the House?’) By making it more compact after effecting certain necessary repairs.

“Lastly, Sir, one other point which was asked of me was, why five lakhs were mentioned when the demand is for only Rs. 1,00,000 which is required in connexion with this building. My reply to that is, five lakhs are required for effecting additions and alterations in the Government House, Madras; and all these alterations and changes will have to be made as a result of the Reforms. I mean accommodation for the Governor's Secretary under the Reforms, alterations and improvements to the Banqueting Hall and other portions of Government House, Madras, etc., will require this amount; when the time comes for making these alterations, Government will of course come before this House for necessary sanction as they are doing in the present case. I do hope in view of my explanation, the House will be pleased to accept these three items and give the necessary sanction.”

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“I wish to say only a few words and I do not want to take up the time of the House. My point is that the amount estimated before and now makes me think that the acquisition is made in an arbitrary manner and I wish the Government will look into this question and see that injustice is not done to any one. With these remarks, I do not press my motions.”

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“I wish to withdraw my motions also.”

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

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* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the main demand to the vote of the House. The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under "Grant XXIX—Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred".'"

The motion was carried and the grant made.

(6) GRANT XXXI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID—TRANSFERRED.^a

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under "Grant XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred".'

There are two specific works under this demand. One is special repairs to the second-class road from Kodaikanal Road station to Kuruvanath in the Madura district where the volume of traffic is very heavy. It has been found that the road has deteriorated so much that it is necessary to relay the foundations. As the finances of the district board are not sufficient to meet this expenditure, it is proposed to assist them by a special grant from the Road Development Fund. Plans and estimates have been prepared and have been approved by the Chief Engineer, and the scheme has received the sanction of the Provincial Board of Communications. The amount required in the current year for the purpose is Rs. 30,000 and it is proposed to meet the amount from the savings out of the current year's allotment for other road and bridge works financed from the Road Development Fund.

The second item refers to the diversion of the Great Northern Trunk Road via Vizianagram, Nellimerla and Jagannatharajapuram in the Vizagapatam district, instead of along the coast. It is proposed to divert the Trunk Road so as to bring in Vizianagram City under its control as this section of the road is found to carry the largest volume of traffic.

"Really the expenditure of Rs. 5,22,000 is not due to the diversion. 4-45
Probably the expenditure due to transfer will be Rs. 90,000. The p.m.
The main item is 4,62,000 for the construction of the bridge. The bridge has been constructed at the Great Northern Trunk Road, that is the present trunk road. But before it was handed over to the district board it was washed away by floods. Now there has been some dispute with the contractors regarding the liability for the loss. If this proposal is approved by the House, the new bridge will be constructed at the same level higher up near Nellimarla. So the new expenditure cannot be put to the cost of diversion because it will have to be incurred in either case. This scheme has been approved by the Board of Communications and also by the Government of India. It is now proposed to move a token cut to enable Government to incur the necessary expenditure. The total expenditure of both these schemes will be met from the Road Development Fund, that is from our share of the fund. It will not be a direct charge on this Province. I hope the House will grant these two items."

^a Explanatory note printed as Appendix XIV on pages 243-245 infra.

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The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I hope to finish the grant to-day. It is not put in the agenda for to-morrow."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"I move—
'to omit the allotment under "Grant XXXI".'

In moving this cut motion, Sir, I like to say a few words. With regard to item (a) I find that the expenditure to be incurred in this case is considerable and the matter has gone up before the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee does not seem to have given the approval. But Government have brought it up before the House. In such cases, I should like that Government should state their specific reasons for deviating from the decision of the Finance Committees. In the absence of such a thing, I am compelled to ask whether the demand that is now proposed is quite necessary. Further, the amount involved is considerable and my question is whether it cannot be put off for some time. With regard to item (b), I have to point out whether it is necessary to incur such a large expenditure at this stage over this work. This work does not find a place in the report furnished by the special engineer for road development. From that you will have to conclude that this is not an urgent proposal which requires immediate attention at a cost of more than five lakhs of rupees. Here also my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhanoji Rao, may remark that he was not surprised to see my cut motions and that they were inevitable. But I will have to tell him that I do what I feel and I do not leave away things as people like him are accustomed to do. When I feel there is a necessity to explain anything or bring out any fact to the notice of the authorities, I cannot sleep over things as my hon. Friend does and wakes only when he is personally interested in it. Then, Sir, I must point out that the distribution of grants for such affairs is not equitable in regard to other districts. I can present a statement of figures of grants paid to various districts for road purposes which the Government have furnished in answer to a question of mine answered on the 23rd March 1935; in it I find huge grants in lakhs allotted to the Vizagapatam district for the past years from 1929-30 whereas the maximum grant got by my district since 1929-30 is only Rs. 39,000 and odd and there were no grants at all for some years. I insist on better attention being bestowed on some equitable distribution of grants to various districts. I should like to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that at one time we brought up a proposal for a bridge across the Cauvery. That also finds a place in the report of Mr. Vipan as an important inter-district communication. The Government turned down the proposal on the plea of no funds. When such an important thing which as an inter-district communication has been overlooked, I should like to ask, Sir, whether it is absolutely necessary to incur this expenditure of five lakhs and odd when we are in a period of transition. I must draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to this and ask him to see that justice is done to all the areas. For this purpose, I have given the cut motions and I should like to hear what the Minister says about these things."

* Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Mr. President, I wish to refer briefly to the proposal for special repairs to what is usually known as

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the Cumbum road. My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, did not dwell on this to any great extent, but confined himself rather to the other item, with which I am not so much concerned. The only remark that I think he made in connexion with the proposal regarding the Kodaikanal road was his statement that the amount is large, and that he could not see any necessity to incur the expenditure at the present moment. If we adopt that attitude in connexion with any particular item of expenditure on roads, it seems to me that within a short space of time the state of the communications of this Presidency will be nothing but deplorable. It does not seem to me to be sound reasoning. One must assume, when a proposal like this is put before the House, there must be some good reason for it, and it cannot be dismissed so lightly as my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, dismissed it just now.

“I should just like to remind the House that in point of fact the matter of this road has been coming up, almost interminably, within my experience outside the House for the last 15 years and more, and inside the House for the last three years or thereabouts. It has been constantly referred to within my memory by the late Mr. Robert Foulkes of Madura, who had special knowledge of this road and of its importance. I also, as representing the Planters in this House, have considerable knowledge of its importance generally, and of its special importance to the planters in the Travancore State. You might ask, why bother ourselves about the planters in Travancore State. It is for the simple reason that this road is the main, if not the only, means of communication between British India in the South and the Travancore State. As such, it is a road of the most immense importance. I think a greater part of the rice and other supplies which are used in the Peermade district of Travancore go up this road. If this road is closed, all that rice would inevitably have to be imported, from Burma or elsewhere, in the Cochin or Alleppey ports and taken up by ropeways and other such means to the planting districts, and all that important rice trade would be entirely lost to the growers of rice in South India, in Tanjore and elsewhere.

“In view of the remarks we have heard about the importance of finding markets for the Tanjore rice, and the complaints—the legitimate complaints—of the mirasidars of Tanjore about their hard lot at present, I should like my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, to go round and tell the mirasidars that the road is of no importance whatsoever. I imagine he would not have a very good reception. Apart from the rice supplies, I should like to point out that of such products as come down this road from the interior, particularly tea and cardamom, a large quantity is consumed in this country and not exported. Therefore, I maintain that probably this road has as much importance, if not more, than any other road in South India, and is a most important channel of internal trade; and therefore should be encouraged in every way possible. I need not enlarge on the fact that the actual expenditure is provided out of the Road Development Fund, and therefore does not fall on the finances of this Presidency. The only item which does

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fall on anybody is the item of recurring expenditure. But as the Madura District Board, who are a singularly independent body, have expressed themselves as quite ready to meet that expenditure, I do not think it is for us to question their wisdom. I support very strongly the motion for this particular grant."

5 p.m. * Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I desire to associate myself with all that has been said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley, in support of this grant. Ever since 1926, this matter has been coming up in some shape or other. If there is one proposal regarding which the two Ministries which have alternatively been in office can lay claim for credit, it is this proposal. I believe it is Dr. Subbarayan's Ministry when it was in power in 1927 that invited the District Board of Madura to contribute half the cost and said that the Government would be prepared to meet the other half for the purpose of putting this important road in good condition. I lay emphasis on the importance of this work for certain other reasons also, in addition to those mentioned by my hon. Friend Mr. Langley. It is not only important for the planters of the Travancore State, but also important to the villagers in the western part of the Madura district, which is so thickly populated and which is suffering from lack of proper means of communication. The road is in a country which is in the neighbourhood of mountains and subject to very heavy monsoon. This road is very essential both from the point of view of the country cart traffic and that of the bus traffic. The traffic is the heaviest in the district. This road is more useful than even the district portion of the trunk road from Madras to Cape Comorin, because parallel to this trunk road the railway line runs. But this road runs away from the railway line and proceeds into the Travancore State. But for this road, the trade of the country would suffer considerably, and communication will equally suffer. The amount to set right this road has been sanctioned after very many personal inspections by the superior engineers who are concerned and after very careful consideration. I believe Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder will be good enough to withdraw his objection to the grant in view of the need for putting this road in proper condition for the benefit of the people as well as the efficient functioning of the internal trade of the country and of the urgent necessity for the grant."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, it has been asked why in spite of the objection by the Finance Committee to pass this grant the Government have come forward with this demand. The main point is that this road is the only means of communication in that part of the Madura district with the Travancore State. The Government have received reports to the effect that unless immediate attention is paid to undertake substantial repairs to this road, it may not be safe both for motor vehicles and bullock carts during all seasons. As a matter of fact, owing to the inability of the district board adequately to maintain the road during the last few years—the board is there only in name—it has become impassable for traffic in certain places. This point has been considered by the board of communications and it has received

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the sanction of the Government of India. I hope the Council would not hesitate to give its support to this grant.

“As regards the second cut motion, I regret to find that my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, without sufficient data or justification, has said that grants are not being distributed impartially. The point is that we always give preference to works on trunk roads. He has gathered some information from the papers which he has read out, and said that particular districts have during the last few years received larger grants than some other districts in the Presidency. It only means that those particular districts have been completely neglected in the past. It does not mean that their works have been given preference.

“Another point my hon. Friend stated was that this road did not find a place in Mr. Vipin's report, and therefore he concludes that the work is not urgent. In fact, these two works have been considered so urgent that Government have decided to take them up separately before the report could be got ready and published, and this work has received the sanction of competent authorities long before the drafting of Mr. Vipin's report was completed. As regards other works, before the end of this meeting of the Council, the Government will place before hon. Members a full and comprehensive report. It is proposed to undertake during the next few years, a definite programme of the works mentioned in Mr. Vipin's report. It cannot be said with any sense of justice that because a particular work in the report which has just seen the light of day has not been sanctioned, no other work should be sanctioned.

“Another point I want to make clear is in regard to the many items about which we received questions from hon. Members of this House. It is asked why in one district a number of works has been sanctioned while in another district only a few works have been sanctioned. The real reason is that the Government are unable to come up before the Council and ask for more grants because in many cases there is no reasonable certainty of the money which is sanctioned being spent expeditiously. They have naturally to give preference to those district boards which come up to Government ready with sanction by competent authority. Therefore, if one district gets more than another, it is because it is more prompt than the other in coming up before the Government with the necessary materials.

“As regards the Vizagapatam district, I do not see why because I happen to be a Minister from that district—my district should be neglected. As a matter of fact, I may state for the information of the hon. Member who raised these questions that most of those items which he has read out to the House are works undertaken in the Vizagapatam district even long before I became Minister. With these words, I hope the Council will unanimously accept the demand.”

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“I should like to say a few words.”

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT:—“There is no right of reply at all. Is the hon. Member going to withdraw his cut motion?”

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" I have no objection to withdraw the cut motions."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under " Grant XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred " ' "

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

VI.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

^a † 1 Notification regarding the bifurcation of North Arcot District Board.

^b * 2 Notification regarding the exemption of certain motor vehicles from payment of tax (G.O. No. 4583, L. & M., dated 7th November 1935).

^c * 3 Notification regarding the reduction of motor tax on certain cars belonging to Banganapalle State.

^d * 4 Scheme Report containing the proposals for the resettlement of certain villages in Coonoor and Ootacamund taluks.

^d * 5 Scheme Report for the settlement of certain villages of the Gudem and Golugonda taluks of Vizagapatam district.

^e * 6 List of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending 30th September 1935.

^f * 7 Notification regarding supersession of Chirala Municipality.

^d * 8 Scheme Report containing the proposals for the resettlement of the hill villages in the Southern taluks of Salem district.

^d * 9 Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the accounts of 1933-34.

^g * 10 Notification, dated 7th January 1936, regarding bifurcation of the Ganjam District Board.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

* Sent by post.

† Laid on the table on 11th November 1935.

^a Printed as Appendix XV on page 245 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix XVI on page 246 infra.

^c Printed as Appendix XVII on page 246 infra.

^d Printed separately.

^e Printed as Appendix XVIII on pages 246-247 infra

^f Printed as Appendix XIX on page 248 infra.

^g Printed as Appendix XX on page 248 infra.